Summer 2001

newtrail

The University of Alberta Alumni Magazine

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Nanotechnology: tiny is big
Student orientation then and now
Super Students
Class Notes and more

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Volume 56 Number 2

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University of Alberta

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HERE'S HOW TO REACH US ...

Comments, suggestions, story ideas–*New Trail* welcomes them all. Our reader response line is ready to take your calls. So leave us message at **492-1702**. *New Trail* also welcomes letters to the editor. If you would like to comment on any of the stories that appear in the magazine, please write us at *New Trail*, 6th Floor, General Services Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H1

STAY IN TOUCH

On the Move? To keep receiving New Trail call **492-7516** or **1-866-492-7516**, toll-free anywhere in North America. E-mail address changes to **alumrec@ualberta.ca**.

BASECAMP

Nineteen years ago I was given the opportunity of a lifetime when I was hired to be the editor of *New Trail*. I didn't fully appreciate then just how great an opportunity it was, but I recall thinking that it would be an interesting job to do for two or three years.

It was, and it has been for all these years.

I've had the opportunity to meet hundreds of interesting people and to speak—often at great length—with individuals who were blazing trails where no others had gone before. Over the years I've learned a lot, about how the immune system works, about chaos theory, about artificial intelligence, and about medieval minnesingers—you name it. For this issue, for instance, I've had the chance to delve into the fascinating world of nanotechnology.

I've now been given a new opportunity, again in the Office of Alumni Affairs at the University of Alberta. This summer I move to the newly-created position of manager, alumni education programs (a portfolio that includes the alumni travel program).

We've often heard from alumni that they would be interested in activities that would connect them with the exciting intellectual life of the University. At the same time, our "Alumni College Abroad" travel offerings have proven very popular.

My challenge in the months ahead will be to develop a program of interesting learning opportunities through which alumni can stay connected with the University while expanding their knowledge and understanding of the world in which we live.

I'm excited about what lies ahead. At the same time, it is difficult to say farewell. I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as editor of this magazine, and it has been a big part of my life.

Thank you to the many people who, through their words of encouragement, their assistance, and their willingness to share their stories, have made the past 19 years so enjoyable.

Rick Pilger
Editor, *New Trail*

new trail

Summer 2001

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E-mail your comments, questions, address updates, and class notes to *alumni@ualberta.ca*

Check out our World Wide Web site where you can join the Alumni Association's online community: *www.ualberta.ca/alumni/*

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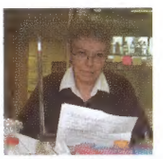
landmarks

Renate Meuser, a technician in the molecular biology and biotechnology centre, recently won the 2001 Outstanding Technician of the Year award presented annually by the Sigma Xi Research Society.



Elan Bowman joined the University in April 2000 as the new director of Government Relations. Bowman comes to the U of A after working for the last two years as the executive assistant to the Honourable Iris Evans, Alberta's Minister of Children's Services.

The 2001 laureates of the U of A's J. Gordin Kaplan Awards for Excellence in Research are Richard Stein, professor of physiology, whose research is in the field of neuroscience and elementary education professor **Jean Clandinin**, '74 MEd, for her research into the nature of teacher knowledge.

In early May, University of Alberta Chancellor **John Ferguson**, '64 BCom, '98 LLD (Honorary), was inducted into the Alberta Business Hall of Fame by Junior Achievement of Northern Alberta and N.W.T.

University of Alberta engineering professor Simaan AbouRizk received one of Canada's top science and engineering prizes. AbouRizk was awarded the 2001 NSERC Steacie Fellowship for his world-leading work in construction research. The award includes a payment to the U of A to provide additional funding for his research.

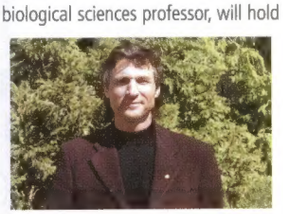
A University of Alberta research team led by U of A biological sciences professor Kevin Devito was recently granted $2.2 million to study how Alberta's wetlands may be affected by natural and human development. The funding for the project was provided by industry and government.

Linda Cameron is the new director of the University of Alberta Press. Cameron comes to the University with 25 years of experience in academic and business environments, and she specializes in the fields of scholarly publishing, information management, and digitization of newspaper records. Earlier in her career she was the director of the U of Calgary Press, and more recently she founded the University of the West Indies Press in Jamaica.

Two former University professors, Norbert R. Morgenstern, professor emeritus of geotechnical engineering, and **Brian Evans**, '54 BA, U of A history professor from 1961 to 1995, were inducted as members of the Order of Canada, the country's highest honour for lifetime achievement.

Catherine Bell, University law professor and founding member of the U of A's Indigenous Law Program, recently received the Aboriginal Justice Award. Bell is the first member of the U of A's law faculty to receive the award, which recognizes people who contribute to the development of aboriginal justice initiatives and cross-cultural justice initiatives in education.

A unique partnership between the University, industry, and the government has resulted in the creation of a $2.5-million research chair to study the relationship between industrial land use and the ecosystem and identify proactive steps to reduce the environmental impact. Stan Boutin, a U of A biological sciences professor, will hold the new chair, officially called the NSERC/Al-Pac/ACR Senior Industrial Research chair in Integrated Landscape Management.



The University community notes with sorrow the passing of Christopher Q. Drummond, U of A professor emeritus of English; R. Norman Jones, former University professor in Chemistry; A. Edward Theman, former assistant clinical professor of surgery at the U of A; **Mervyn J. Huston**, '37 BSc(Pharm), '41 MSc, '88 DSc (Honorary), former dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and Ollie Sands, former bookkeeper in the athletics department.

A weighty matter

The second item Frank Gue's letter to the editor in *New Trail* Spring 2001, may just be a bit off the mark. I, too, remember Professor Campbell enjoining his students to "state your units!" It was Prof Campbell's misfortune to have to teach Mechanics in a world of inches, feet, yards, fathoms, rods, chains, furlongs, miles, to say nothing of lbf., lbm., slugs, etc.

That solarcar, if it were "weighed" on a balance-type device would have shown up with a mass of 400 kg whether the weighing was done at sea level, Denver, or on the moon. When we "weigh" with a deflection-type device, we rely on it having been properly calibrated to register the correct mass in the particular gravity field in which it is used. It is true that our language does not, clinically, reflect what we mean when we say something "weighs" so many kilograms.

Mr. Gue (and others) might like to contemplate a "weightless" baseball in an orbiting spacecraft. Though it floats light as a feather, if it were hurled at another astronaut, that baseball would be just as hurtful as on earth. Regardless of the state of its weight, the ball still has all its mass.

Of course, I cannot claim to speak for Prof Campbell, but I believe he would have rejoiced at the prospect of using a single, dedicated unit (kilogram) for mass and a single, dedicated unit (newton) for the distinctly different physical quantity force.

Duncan Bath, '45 BSc(Eng)
Peterborough, Ontario

Let's hear it for Lethbridge High

My wife, **Peggy Andrews (Cleveland)**, '52 BEd, is a graduate from the U of A, so we receive your publication. This issue was particularly interesting with four personalities of our near vintage.

However, what is paramount and not reported is that Senator Fairbairn, Peter Roberts, and John Paterson are all from Lethbridge. And Ivan Head was a resident of Lethbridge and consequently all four were graduates from L.C.I. ,whose principal was a fabulous teacher, disciplinarian, and mentor, D.S.A. Kyle.

Many of us from Lethbridge in the '40s knew we probably had to leave for wider opportunities, and as you can see that school set a pace to be met.

Don Andrews,
Vancouver, B.C.

News travels fast

I thought I would send a brief note to let you know your magazine is certainly being read by U of A grads.

When my U of A friends wrote to tell me that they had received their copies of my article, they also mentioned that they had seen it in *New Trail*. [Mr. Crockford's memoir of life as a newly married student in a Garneau apartment appeared in the Winter 2000-2001 issue of *New Trail*; he also sent copies of the magazine to his friends.] In addition, a teacher with whom my wife had taught in the 1960's having read the article, contacted Arline as a result of having done so. (We were very impressed with the manner in which the Office of Alumni Affairs handled this person's request by giving us the teacher's name and address rather than vice versa—I can visualize situations in which giving out an address could lead to some awkward moments).

Once again, it was a real thrill to see my article in print. Best wishes to the staff of *New Trail*—I read each issue from cover to cover, and it's obvious many other do to.

Charles Crockford, '62 BA
Waterloo, Ontario

How much colour is too much?

Having just finished reading the Spring 2001 issue of *New Trail*, I feel compelled to write a few words of protest. I've lived through the introduction of colour during the last few years, and must admit that, in my opinion, it has never enhanced the script.

A prime example might be page 11 of the Spring issue—is it white print on orange with further imprint on the text?

What a delight it was to turn to the last page and read the excellent article on the present chairman of the U of A's Board of Governors—in black print on white.

Although I am 95 my eyesight is excellent and reading a delight. *The Gathering Storm* by Winston Churchill has been sitting in my bookcase for several years. I've just started it and it is fascinating.

New Trail keeps me in touch with the University of Alberta from which I graduated in 1927. I worked in the Registrar's Office and later in the Student Awards Office for 37 years. It's a great pleasure to recall my own undergraduate years when Dr. H.M. Tory was still there. Definitely, I would be lost if I should return today—but the old Arts Building and the medical building still stand—and I am always pleased to read of the advancing stature of the University of Alberta.

Esther Miller, '27 BA
Vancouver, B.C.

Editor's note: *We appreciate your interest in New Trail and apologize for the instances of compromised readability in the last issue. It is a continuing struggle to keep the magazine both colourful—which many alumni find appealing—and readable. We always try to ensure readability first; however, because of the vagaries of the printing process, what appears to be quite readable at the design stage may be much less so when the presses roll and ink is applied to paper.*

We would like to hear your comments about the magazine. Send us your letters via mail or send us an e-mail to the address on page 4. The letters maybe be edited for length or clarity.

University loses a pioneer in phys ed

In the Spring 2001 issue of *New Trail*, we shared briefly the memories **David Thomson**, '60 BA, had of working with Pierre Trudeau as an assistant in the PMO's Office. (Unfortunately, we misspelled his name in that article, inserting a 'p' where none was necessary; for that we apologize.)

Maury Van Vliet pictured in his University office.

The oldest of four children from a southern Alberta family with difficult financial circumstances, Thomson may never have been able to finish his studies at the U of A if not for the kindness of **Maury Van Vliet**, '79 LLD (Honorary), at the time the U of A's director of physical education, who gave him a room in the old Varsity Rink and paid him $65 a month to look after the rink.

Thomson is only one of countless alumni who have warm memories of the erstwhile phys ed dean , who died on 4 April 2001, just hours after receiving a standing ovation at the U of A's annual Sports Wall of Fame ceremony.

Born in the U.S., Van Vliet came to Canada in 1936 to teach at UBC. He arrived at the U of A in 1945 as the director of athletics and immediately became the football and basketball coach, as well. In 1962, he founded the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation and served as its dean until 1976.

A member of the Order of Canada and of the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame, Van Vliet was president and chairperson of the 1978 Commonwealth Games held in Edmonton.

Sun Stickers:
fun sun protection

It's a whole new way to look at sun protection

SunSpots are non-toxic stickers that warn wearers to get out of the sunshine or apply more screening protection. Decorated with happy faces, ice cream, and other fun stuff, these loonie-sized stickers turn red when the person wearing it has had enough safe exposure to the sun. Created by Stuart Jackson, associate professor in the University's radiology department, and chemist John Mercer, assistant professor of pharmacy, the stickers help prevent sunburn and skin cancer.

It is widely recognized that exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays is a preventable cause of skin cancer. "The key was to make something simple so people could see the change easily and realize that they have had enough sun," says Jackson, who emphasizes that the value of the stickers is to raise awareness in a society that tends to be sun-indulgent.

Jackson and Mercer got the idea for the sun stickers while working on another project: radiation detection stickers. Used on blood bags, these stickers change colours to indicate when the blood has been treated with radiation. "But while we made these radiation stickers that are selling all over the world, we were looking for a different opportunity, and the idea of sun stickers came up again," says Jackson, who had once before thought of using stickers as means of sun medication. Named SunSpots by the American company that bought the rights for the U of A profs' invention, the product is to be marketed on the Internet.

Did you know?

- **More than 70,000 new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed in Canada this year.**
- **In Canada, the number of cases of skin cancer has increased by 60 per cent over the past 10 years**
- **Skin cancer is the second most common cancer in women**

Icelandic Sagas sail onto the shelves of the U of A's libraries.

They could just be "Canada's first recorded history," says Consul General Svavar Gestsson. Representing the people and government of Iceland, Gestsson was recently on campus to donate three, five-volume sets of 40 Icelandic sagas—the first coordinated English translation of these sagas—to the University of Alberta library collection

The sagas are not exact histories, says Gestsson, but they provide "the frame—the main pillars—of history that has been proven through artifacts and letters found in Rome, for example." According to Christopher Hale, U of A professor of modern languages and cultural studies, these unique-to-Iceland sagas are "fiction based on oral and written traditions with some basis in history."

Copies of the sagas were donated to the U of A and other institutions by the Icelandic government to commemorate the landing of Leif Ericson in Newfoundland in the year 1000 and to draw attention to their country's heritage.

The University will place two sets in Rutherford Library; the third will be stored at the University's Book and Records Depository.

U of A acting director of library services Kathleen DeLong accepting the sagas from Icelandic Consul General Svavar Gestsson.

The U of

The survey says

There's good news on the
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University's vice-president (
news conference in February

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The U of A Advantage

The survey says ... University of Alberta graduates get jobs

There's good news on the job front for U of A graduates. Within five years of graduating, the majority of alumni have full-time employment with rising salaries.

These are just some of the encouraging findings in a recent employment survey of 1995 graduates from all faculties. The study was commissioned by Career and Placement Services on campus, and what makes this news so good is that more than half of the respondents found a professional placement within six months of graduation. After five years, this number increased to almost 65 per cent.

"It's important to dispel the myth that graduates of community colleges and technical schools are getting great jobs while university grads are sitting on street corners waiting for the food bank," said Doug Owram, the University's vice-president (academic) and provost at a news conference in February.

The survey clearly indicates that long-term job prospects are better for those with more education, he said. And this applies to all graduates—even those from general arts programs. "Although initially they [general arts degree recipients] may not make as much as graduates of professional faculties, what's really striking is the gains they make over five years—the gap starts to close."

Another positive finding in the survey, says Wendy Coffin, director of CaPs, is that, over all, graduates felt that their University studies were critical in securing employment and performing effectively in the workplace.

Gathering employment statistics like these are important, says Coffin. The information helps measure how successful the University is in preparing students for the workforce, and it also helps evaluate graduates' long-term career progression, which helps benefit future students, she says.

The employment survey, conducted by the University's Population Research Laboratory, was administered to 2,167 alumni in Canada, the United States, and abroad. It replicates the CaPS survey of 1990 graduates that was done in 1995. The data gathered in this recent survey will be added to the baseline information that was collected on the 1990 graduates.

The survey also discovered that:

- Only **5.3 percent** of respondents were unemployed six months after graduation. Five years after graduation, that number had dropped to **2.3 per cent**. This compares to the national average for university graduates, reported in the 1997 Statistics Canada Survey, of **nine per cent**—this figure increases to **10 per cent** for college graduates nationally, and **15 per cent** for graduates of trade or vocational schools.
- Five years after graduation, there were no unemployed respondents from the Faculties of Agriculture, Forestry, and Home Economics; Law; Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences; and from the dental school.
- Five years after graduation, **74.7 per cent** of employed respondents held full-time, permanent positions.
- Graduates with bachelor's degrees from 1995 were earning approximately **$32,000** in 1997, compared with **$25,700** earned by career and technical college graduates, and **$23,400** earned by trade and vocational school graduates. Master's and PhD grads from 1995 were earning, on average, **$47,000** in 1997.

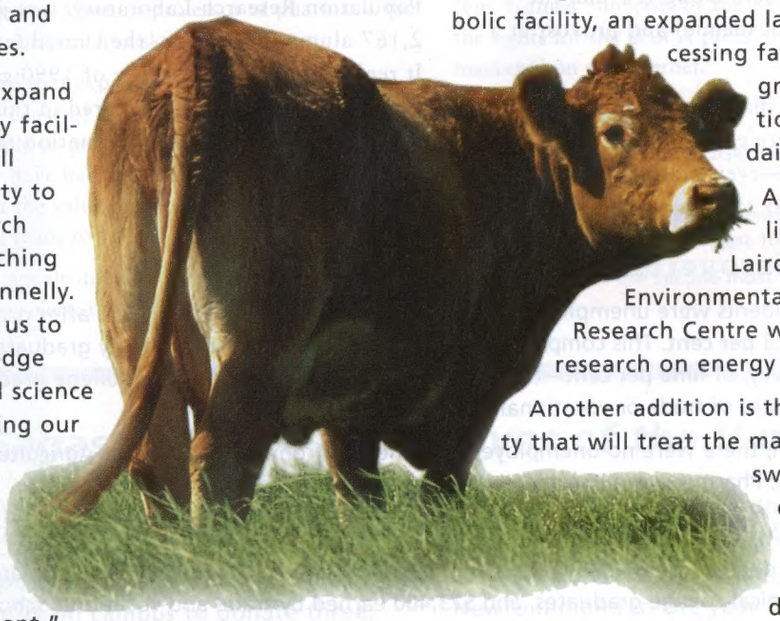
Relocation to the west side of campus

We've moved! After 24 years in Athabasca Hall, the Office of Alumni Affairs has relocated to the newly refurbished sixth floor of the General Services Building. Commonly referred to as GSB, the Alumni Office's new home is located just off of 116 Street—tucked between the SUB parkade and the Hydraulics Lab. Alumni are welcome to drop in to look around and say hello.

University Farm is growing to be one of the best research stations in North America

It's a living laboratory—home to more than 2,000 cattle, sheep, and swine—and it's growing. The Edmonton Research Station—or University Farm as it is more commonly known—is undergoing improvements that will give the University of Alberta some of the best agricultural research facilities in North America, says **John Kennelly**, '80 PhD, chair of the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Sciences.

The upgrades to expand and modernize key facilities at the ERS will allow the University to build on its research strengths and teaching programs, says Kennelly. "It will also allow us to do more cutting-edge research in animal science as well as expanding our research in the areas of environmental sustainability, nutrient recycling, and manure management."



Construction, which began in November 2000, will improve four facilities at the ERS: the Sinclair Swine Research Centre, the Dairy Research and Technology Centre, the Laird W. McElroy Environmental and Metabolism Research Centre, and the compost facility.

New developments at the ERS include consolidating all the swine operations into one building. The new Sinclair Swine Research Centre will have a bio-secure working environment as well as improved ventilation and odour control systems—an environmental bonus for the centre's researchers, staff, and more than 1,500 pigs and piglets. (Not to mention those who work or live by the ERS.)

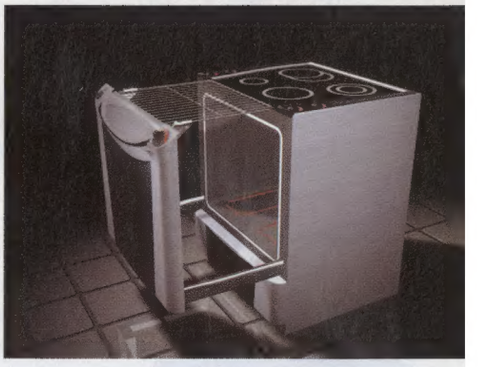
The Dairy Research and Technology Centre is being expanded to include additional facilities for lactating cows and improve animal handling and milking systems, which will reduce stress on the cows as well as enhancing efficiency. Other upgrades include a metabolic facility, an expanded laboratory area and a processing facility will will allow for greater emphasis on lactation as well as value-added dairy product research.

A new beef cattle metabolism laboratory in the Laird W. McElroy Environmental and Metabolism Research Centre will support and further research on energy and protein metabolism.

Another addition is the new composting facility that will treat the manure from cattle and swine indoors. This will eliminate the outdoor compost pile, which relied on anerobic decomposition that produced offensive odours.

The ERS, an integrated site located two-kilometres south of the main campus, has the advantage of proximity. Kennelly says the central location of the ERS facilitates more intensive research and a higher level of collaboration between labs at the ERS and on the main campus. Plus, its easy access reduces travelling time for both students and researchers. The new and improved facilities at the ERS are scheduled to be completed by this fall.

The win was in the oven



Four U of A students recently gave a whole new meaning to the term easy-bake-oven, and they won a gold medal for doing it.

The Simplicity Range, a collaborative project involving industrial design and rehab medicine students, makes using an oven easier and safer for seniors—or anyone for that matter. Created by Zsolt Kovacs, Cam Frith, Sophie Wilderkijk, and Mary Ellen Lamont, the range won first place at the 13th annual North American-wide American Society of Aging Universal Design Competition.

The Simplicity Range works by bringing what is in the oven up to the cook. Once the oven door, which easily slides, is fully opened, the motorized rack rises to bring food to stove top level, where it can be easily slid onto the top of the range, which hides its inductive elements under ceramic glass.

The purpose of the project was to foster independent home living for seniors. Originally, Kovacs and Frith, who are in industrial design, and Wilderkijk and Lamont, who are in rehab medicine, were going to create a pill dispenser. But they changed their minds when they realized that there were already thousands of these in the market. "But while we were looking [through catalogues] one of the girls pointed to a stick in the catalogue that was used to pull out a stove rack, and we decided it wasn't long enough. We then decided to try to make a better version and we came up with the Simplicity Range," explained Frith.

Good move. The Simplicity Range was a winner with judges at the competition held in New Orleans in mid-March. It was praised for its design, safety features, and user-friendly controls. "This team effort produced new solutions for ranges and addressed a serious safety need for cooks of all ages," said design competition judge Margaret Christenson.

Besides the gold, the U of A also received two bronze, three honourable mentions, and an award of excellence for continually producing top-notch entries in the competition for the past six years.

ASK THE PRESIDENT

Roderick D. Fraser
President, University of Alberta

Q: What impact does the Government of Alberta's Budget 2001 have on the University's goal to recruit and retain outstanding faculty?

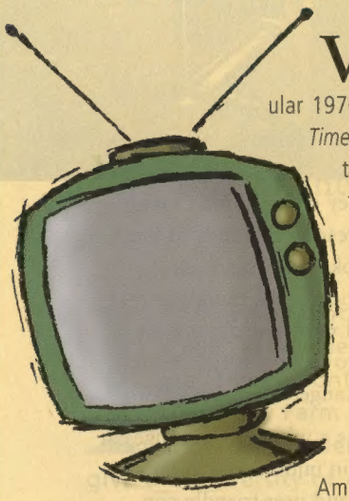
A: The University of Alberta has been faced with the challenge of competing with other Canadian and U.S. universities for the best researchers and instructors. Top faculty and research staff lead to cutting-edge research and innovation. Attracting the best faculty to the University is what will set us apart from the rest, and ensure that we are indisputably recognized, nationally and internationally, as one of Canada's finest universities, and amongst a handful of the world's best.

In early 2000, the University of Alberta ranked sixth among Canada's research-intensive "Group of 10" (or G10) universities in terms of faculty salaries. Our goal is to improve upon this ranking to ensure we are maintaining our commitment to attract and retain outstanding faculty. We are committed to improving the U of A's average salary profile to one that ranks in the top three among the G10 universities.

The Government of Alberta supports our commitment to building research excellence in Alberta and to creating an environment that enables us to compete internationally. To this end, the provincial government allocated $10.1 million to the University of Alberta in 2001, specifically directed toward faculty attraction and retention. While the new money goes a long way to improving our position amongst the G10, it does not yet bring us to our target.

The good news is that in Budget 2001, the government indicated that an additional $4 million in funding would be provided over the next two years. We will continue to work with the provincial government to ensure that the University of Alberta salaries are competitive and attractive to the top teaching and research professionals.

Black and White TV



Viewers tuned into the popular 1970s sitcom *Good Times* for its entertainment value, to chuckle at the antics of Florida, J.J.—the human stringbean with a face of putty—and a variety of other African American characters. But the impact of the show went well beyond entertainment, says Aniko Bodroghkozy.

While they smiled at the on-screen mayhem, viewers were digesting more than their snacks: they were, at some level of consciousness, ruminating on what it meant to be a black person or a white person in America, says Bodroghkozy, an assistant professor of film/media studies at the University of Alberta.

As part of her research into the influence television had on the way Americans rethought race relations in the early 1950s to the mid-1970s—the watershed of the American civil rights movement—Bodroghkozy has analysed the viewer mail received by the producers of a number of television shows. In addition to *Good Times*, these shows include *Julia*, the pioneering 1968 sitcom, in which Diahann Carroll starred as a nurse raising her young son.

Bodroghkozy's research challenges the notion that entertainment television is empty of any kind of social impact. She found that TV—which had, itself, been influenced by the civil rights movement—played a huge role in changing popular notions of what it means to be "black" and "white." Television programming—both news and entertainment programming—was a crucial component to changing views about American race relations," concludes Bodroghkozy.

The author of *Groove Tube*, a book examining the influence of television on the youth movement of the '60s, Bodroghkozy has incorporated her race-relations research into her second book, which is to be released this fall.

Biological basis for Anorexic Behaviour

According to conventional belief—and most daytime talk shows—anorexia is "caused" by social pressures, by the need to feel thin and attractive. Research done by U of A sociology professor W. David Pierce suggests that that view may be much too simplistic. In his extensive research with laboratory animals, Pierce has found a biological basis for some kinds of anorexic behaviour.

When rats are initially deprived of food and allowed to run on an activity wheel, they engage in excessive amounts of physical activity and "become anorexic"—that is, they shun food, starve, and often die. The reason, suggests Pierce, is that "animals are programmed to travel during times of food scarcity and to become anorexic during a food-related trek."

This finding has chilling overtones for humans, says Pierce. While people may go on diets and exercise heavily for social and cultural reasons, "severe dieting and excessive exercise can [then] trigger a biobehavioural process that results in self starvation." Highly active anorexics may find that their own bodies are among their worst enemies.

ALBERTA ADVANTAGE?

According to the author of a recent report released by the Parkland Institute at the University of Alberta, low and middle-income families are missing out on the "Alberta Advantage."

Patricia Lawrence, of Grande Prairie, Alberta, says she was surprised to find that "in spite of the growing economy and boom we've been hearing about, family income in Alberta is lower than it was 20 years ago."

Her report, "Advantage for Whom? Declining Family Incomes in A Growing Alberta Economy," analyzes data originally compiled by Statistics Canada to compare the incomes of Alberta families at all income levels. (To permit true comparisons, all dollar figures were converted to the 1997 equivalent.) A major finding was that, although there has been some recovery during the last few years, market incomes—everything a family earns as a result of their activities in the marketplace—have still not returned to their 1981 levels. For example, the 1997 market incomes of the poorest group of families were only about 62 per cent of their 1981 high.

Lawrence, the executive director of the South Peace Social Planning Council, also found a growing gap between rich and poor. In 1981 the richest 10 per cent of Alberta families had market incomes 14.2 times higher than the poorest 10 per cent, while in 1997 the richest had a 22-to-one advantage over the poorest.

Reducing Stroke Damage

University of Alberta psychology professor Fred Colbourne believes that deliberately induced hypothermia may one day be used to lessen the damage suffered by stroke victims.

In his work with laboratory animals, Colbourne has shown that a lowering of body temperature persistently decreases the size of the lesion in the brain following a stroke. Colbourne, who collaborated on the research with colleagues in Newfoundland and Calgary, believes that cooling the body might be more effective than the current treatment—which involves a drug known as TPA—because cooling could be less time sensitive. For TPA to work, the patients must receive the medication within three hours of their suffering the stroke.

Improved epidural anesthesia for kids

When Ban Tsui was doing his residency in anesthesiology, he was dismayed by the hit-and-miss approach to administering epidural anesthesia to young children. I thought "this is the 20th century, there must be a better way to do it," he recalls.

Now there is. Combining his medical knowledge with his background in electrical engineering, Tsui, an assistant professor of anesthesiology at the University of Alberta, has developed an innovative test that Barry Finegan, the chair of the U of A anesthesiology department, describes as a "huge advance in the management of pain following surgery."

Epidural anesthesia—the blocking of nerve routes from the spinal cord with a local anesthetic or pain-killing drug—is often used to prevent post-operative pain and to reduce complications after surgery. The success of the procedure depends upon the delivery of the anesthetic (administered via a catheter) to the precise location of the spine. While adult patients can assist by providing confirmation that the proper nerves have been deadened, the procedure has been more problematic with children. With babies and very young children, doctors had only one chance to get it right—during surgery when the child was perfectly still. Often an X-ray would be needed to determine if the catheter was properly placed, and even then success wasn't certain.

Because of the high failure rate of the epidural procedure, doctors often turned to the use of morphine to control post-operative pain in young children. For many children, however, the morphine brought about breathing difficulties, and they would end up on a ventilator in the intensive care unit.

Little wonder then that the Tsui Test, which has a demonstrated success rate of more than 90 per cent, has been warmly received. It involves sending a mild electrical current through the catheter prior to the administration of the epidural solution to stimulate the nerves that are about to be anesthetized. If a doctor is looking to block pain signals from the arm, for instance, proper placement of the catheter will be confirmed if the arm twitches.

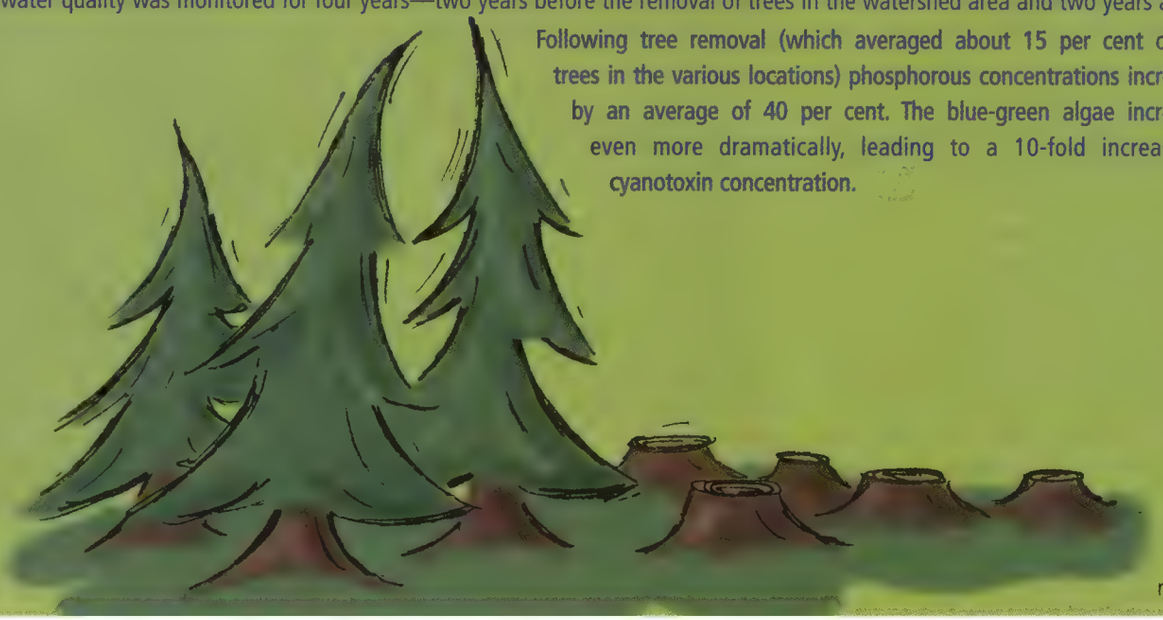
"The Tsui test provides physical evidence that we're hitting the right spots and the effects are immeasurable," says Finegan, who points out that the new test cuts costs and, more importantly, results in "a tremendous reduction of pain for these children."

Tree Removal leads to increase in cyanotoxin levels

It has long been recognized that agricultural activity increases levels of phosphorous—and subsequently cyanobacteria—in nearby surface water. Now, a University of Alberta study led by biological sciences professor Ellie Prepas has found that cutting down trees has the same effects. The study also shows that the type of cyanobacteria that is increased is particularly high in a potent liver toxin known to poison mammals.

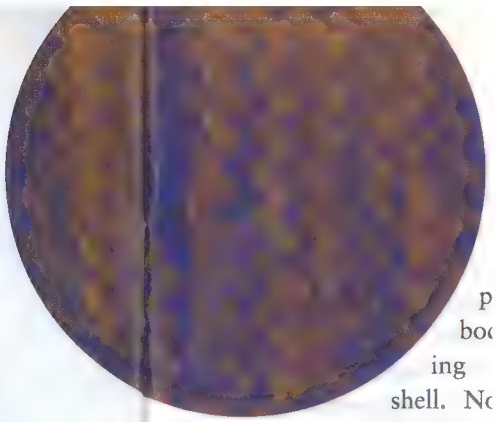
The research, published recently in the *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences,* involved 11 remote northern Alberta lakes where water quality was monitored for four years—two years before the removal of trees in the watershed area and two years after.

Following tree removal (which averaged about 15 per cent of the trees in the various locations) phosphorous concentrations increased by an average of 40 per cent. The blue-green algae increased even more dramatically, leading to a 10-fold increase in cyanotoxin concentration.



The big, big future of tiny

By Rick Pilger



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Mark Freeman and Mi

Nanotechnology comes into the spotlight

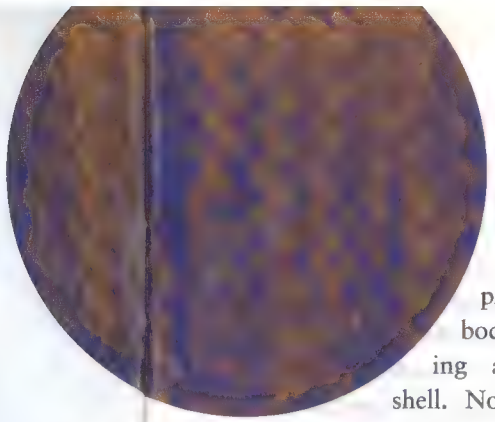
Really, really small is becoming really, really big. In a supersized world of big-box stores, SUVs, megaprojects, big gulps, and biggie fries, nanotechnology—technology at or close to the atomic level—is beginning to capture the imagination of the scientific world. If even a fraction of its promise is realized, nanotechnology could yield wondrous new materials and products, profoundly change our daily lives, and transform the fight against diseases.

The prefix "nano" derives from the Greek word for dwarf (nanus) and is used in the International System of units to denote a billionth (10–9)—as in nanometre, nanolitre, nanovolt, etc. **Mark Freeman**, '81 BSc, a professor of physics at the University of Alberta, admits to being something of a purist in defining nanotechnology: he favours the physicist's definition, which derives from the observation that substances take on new properties when dealt with in tiny, tiny amounts. The threshold for this alteration of properties is typically at a physical length in the nanometre range—about the length of 10 hydrogen atoms lined up one after the other or one-ten-thousandths of the thickness of a human hair.

"One clear example of this is magnetism," says Freeman. The magnetism exhibited by a ferromagnet—the everyday magnet which holds stuff on our fridge—is the result of a quantum mechanical exchange among a group of atoms. "The minimum size to get this property is a pretty small length—a length in the nanometre range," says Freeman.

At the nanoscale strange things happen. Electrons no longer flow through electrical conductors like rivers. Instead the electrons' quantum mechanical nature expresses itself as a wave, and suddenly remarkable things become possible: an insulating layer that would normally have stopped electron flow is no longer a barrier—the electrons tunnel right through it. Similarly, other material properties, such as mechanical strength and optical properties, can be altered at the nanoscale. The allure of nanotechnology is the expectation that, by controlling the arrangement of molecules on the nanoscale, it will be possible to create materials with fundamentally new physical properties.

The poster boy (poster gastropod?) for nanotechnology could well be the abalone. This primitive marine snail



Illustrations showing the highly magnified structures of thin films developed at the University of Albertaare used courtesy of Dr. Michael Brett. They have been colourized for use in this article.

protects its soft body by constructing a super-tough shell. Not only is this shell durable—able to withstand sharp beaks and teeth, even hammer blows—but it is beautiful, lined with colourful, iridescent mother-of-pearl. Surprisingly, the building blocks of this ultra-resilient and beautiful shell are the same molecules that make up chalk—calcium carbonate. Through Nature's own nanoengineering, the stuff of soft, crumbly chalk becomes the stuff of the abalone's remarkable shell.

The physicist's definition of nanotechnology has been stretched to include any sort of work at the nanoscale—using nanolitres of fluid, for instance—whether or not any substantive changes in properties are involved. The primary idea in nanotechnology, as it is commonly understood, is the manipulation of discrete atoms to achieve desired results—whether that means materials with new properties or the ability to edit DNA to prevent diseases.

Such is the promise of nanotechnology that its potential impact on society has been stated in superlative terms. An introduction to the U.S. National Nanotechnology Initiative, launched last year, speculates that the "impact of nanotechnology on the health, wealth and lives of people could be at least as significant as the combined influences of microelectronics, medical imaging, computer-aided engineering, and man-made polymers developed in this century." Some nanotechnology proponents find even that seemingly bold statement too timid: they see nanotechnology taking its place in history beside the taming of fire.

Because of the possible impact of nanotechnology on almost every aspect of society (including national security), governments around the world have begun to take notice. In the U.S., President George W. Bush has asked Congress) to give the National Nanotechnology Initiative funding of $485 million (US) for the 2002 fiscal year. In March of this year, a month or so before Bush's budget request, Japan announced its own $410 million (US) program of support for nanotechnology.

In Canada, where a national approach to nanotechnology is yet to be formulated, the University of Alberta is emerging as a leader in that field and is hoping to play a national leadership role. "With our strengths in science, engineering, and medicine, the University of Alberta is well positioned to lead in this emerging field," says U of A president Rod Fraser, who points to the burgeoning nanotechnology research community already in place in Edmonton.

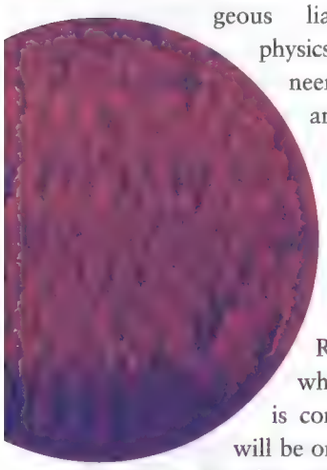
Two of the pillars that support that community are the U of A spinoff company Micralyne Inc. (formerly the Alberta Microelectonics Centre) and the University's MicroFab lab. Micralyne is a world leader in the design and fabrication of micromachined glass, silicon, and thin-film components. Since its creation in 1988, it has developed into a world-leading foundry for microchip manufacture. In 1998, Micralyne and Canada's Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council gave a major boost to Edmonton's nanotech capabilities with the creation of the jointly funded Micralyne/NSERC Industrial Research Chair at the U of A.

That chair is held by engineering professor Michael Brett, who was instrumental in the creation of the MicroFab lab—a micro- and nano-fabrication facility where researchers are able to use the most advanced equipment available to construct things such as microfluidic devices, nanoscale magnetic devices, optical detectors, fuel cells, and other products that require extremely precise fabrication. Opened in 1999, the lab is the result of

Mark Freeman and Micheal Brett

Lotus

collaboration between the University's Faculties of Engineering and Science. "We got together to form this facility, get funding for it, and make it work," says Brett, the director of the engineering physics program in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering. "That brought us together and kept us together. Here we form a very advantageous liaison between physics, electrical engineering, chemistry, and medicine."



The MicroFab lab, which will move to the new Electrical Computer Engineering Research Facility when that building is complete this fall, will be one of the beneficiaries of a major grant resulting from the Alberta government's iCORE program. In April, it was announced that, through iCORE (an acronym derived from "Informatics Circle of Excellence"), $5 million, over five years, was being dedicated to support a nanoscale engineering research team at the U of A. The co-directors of that iCORE team are Brett and Freeman, who plan to use much of the money to enhance the capabilities of the MicrFab lab.

Brett and others at the University are hopeful that more good news will be forthcoming. Because of the University of Alberta's developing excellence in nanotechnology, Economic Development Edmonton, the National Research Council, and the University are making the case for the establishment in Edmonton of an NRC centre dedicated to nanotechnology. Alberta is one of only two provinces (P.E.I. is the other) that do not currently have NRC institutes. The creation of the Integrated Nano Systems Institute—the name proposed for the new NRC centre—could bring huge benefits to Edmonton and Alberta, says John Martin, managing director of site location with Economic Development Edmonton Research Park. "This emerging cluster would directly employ—independent of NRC or the University—several hundred knowledge workers. It would catalyze a profound structural change in the region that might otherwise take longer to achieve," says Martin.

While it has only been in very recent years that nanotechnology has created a stir in mainstream science, a 1959 lecture by physicist Richard Feynman is widely regarded as the seminal point in its history. The lecture, delivered at the California Institute of Technology, was titled "There is Plenty of Room at the Bottom"—a reference to his prediction that chemistry, physics, and biology would converge "at the bottom" as the scale of things they looked at became smaller.

In his prescient lecture, the irreverent and jester-spirited Nobel laureate who is famous for his work on particle spin and the theory of partons, extrapolated from what he saw in biology. "A biological system can be exceedingly small," he noted. "Many of the cells are very tiny, but they are active; they manufacture substances; they walk around; they wiggle; and they do all kinds of marvelous things—all on a very small scale. Also they store information. Consider the possibility that we, too, can make a thing very small which does what we want—that we can manufacture an object that maneuvers at that level." The vision that Feynman provided his audience in this pre-computer-chip era included writing all 25,000 pages of the 1959 edition of the Encyclopedia Brittanica in an area the size of a pin head using an electron beam, building computers no bigger than the size of a dust speck, and manipulating atoms to alter the atomic arrangement of minerals. Repeatedly Feynman assured his audiences that he wasn't joking, that what he was suggesting did not clash with the known laws of science. "I can hardly doubt," said Feynman, 'that when we have some control of the arrangement of things on a small scale, we will get an enormously greater range of possible properties that substances can have, and of different things we can do."

The advances that Feynman envisioned in 1959, seemingly so fantastic 40 years ago, are becoming closer all the time In 1989 researchers at IBM demonstrated the ability to move individual atoms into place when they arranged 25 atoms into the pattern of their company logo.

To demonstrate the scale at which they can work, researchers at the University of Alberta's MicroFab lab have created an incredibly minute replica of the U of A crest. The lines of the rendering are not much more than 50 atoms wide—so small is the tiny crest, 20,000 of them would fit into the period at the end of this sentence.

In his historic lecture, Feynman suggested that biologists should persuade physicists to make the electron microscope "100 time better." The electron microscope is now roughly 100,000 times as powerful as it was in 1959, and the progress now being made in nanotechnology is largely the result of these devices with names such as atomic force microscope, near-field microscope, and scanning tunneling microscope. This technological wizardry has given scientists the "fingers" necessary to manipulate atoms and the "eyes" to observe the results.

At the University of Alberta, Freeman has done pioneering work using a tunneling electron microscope (capable of tracing the outline of individual atoms) to observe and record

phenomena never before seen. "As a general trend, as things get smaller their characteristic time scales decrease—things happen very quickly," explains Freeman, who has developed a technique for bringing together the precision of a tunneling electron microscope with what is "essentially the world's fastest strobe light" to slow down happenings at the nanoscale so that they can be observed.

With the atomic world becoming a more familiar place, the nanotechnological marvels being touted seem less fanciful, says Freeman. "We can now sense some of the potential," he says, "enough to be positive that the outcomes are going to be truly mind-boggling."

Brett, his partner in directing the iCORE nanoscale engineering physics research team, has long had an interest in thin-film structures (such as can be found incorporated into magnetic storage devices, optical equipment, and integrated circuits— even on the inside of potato chip packages) and has devised novel approaches to producing extremely thin films. "These aren't just boring films," stresses Brett. And indeed they are not. Viewed at high magnification these thin—approximately 200 nanometres thick—films resemble forests of preposterous, cookie-cutter trees. The trees come in a variety of fanciful shapes, although most are spring-like. These complex film structures are the result of the patented deposition technique used to lay down the film. Known as GLAD (for "glancing angle deposition") the technique was developed at the U of A in 1994 by Brett and **Kevin Robbie**, '94 BSc(Eng), '98 PhD. At the time, Brett was trying to understand and improve microelectronic structures and wondered if such structures could be engineered on the nanometre scale. Robbie, then an engineering physics student, happened to be looking for a fourth-year undergraduate project, and Brett suggested

For Better or Worse

Nanotechnology and the Future

The ability to alter the properties of substances by rearranging atoms or to build self-replicating machines the size of molecules may become commonplace as the science of nanotechnology matures. This could result in some exciting developments for the betterment of life on Earth. It could also open a Pandora's box.

The good

The possible benefits of nanotechnology seem to be limited only by the imagination. According to a variety of sources, the following could be just around the corner:

- kitchen appliances which produce an endless supply of high-quality food from garbage
- an inexhaustible supply of incredibly strong building materials made of diamond, grown in forms of any conceivable volume
- extremely durable, rejection-resistant artificial tissues and organs
- sensor systems that detect emerging disease in the body
- tiny machines that patrol the bloodstream repairing or destroying damaged cells
- new "green" processing technologies that minimize the generation of undesirable by-product effluents
- a supercomputer the size of a droplet of water
- technology that makes it possible for individuals to make, at home, much of what they need, reducing the need to transport goods
- CO2 scrubbers that could swiftly and economically remove the excess carbon dioxide in the atmosphere
- artificial photosynthesis systems for clean energy
- selective membranes capable of fishing out specific toxic or valuable particles from industrial waste or inexpensively desalinating seawater
- blood substitutes
- chameleon-like camouflage that changes shape and colour to blend in anywhere

The not-so-good

While the potential benefits of nanotechnology are legion, there are some sobering possibilities:

- the "grey goo" problem—if self replicating, nanoscale machines were (either intentionally or inadvertently) permitted to multiply unchecked they could possibly very quickly cover the Earth in a grey goo
- computers that are too smart—some people worry that if computers take on human-level intelligence in the coming decades they may pose a theat to humans
- loss of security—with the advent of phenomenally powerful computers, it will be difficult to protect the privacy of information; the tough encryption programs that enable today's e-commerce would soon fall
- lack of breathing space—if disease is virtually eradicated, Earth's population would soon climb to unsustainable levels.

Chris Backhouse and Linda Pilarski

Lotus

his nanoengineering idea. "I was thinking it was kind of a silly idea," recalls Brett. "But, as a project, it would be educational. Kevin made it work and made the first engineered structure at that scale."

The unique microstructures of GLAD films makes potential applications numerous, running the gamut of optical, biological, chemical, electrical, magnetic, and mechanical uses. Brett's research group is already experimenting with hybrid films—porous helical films into which liquid crystalline materials have been incorporated—for use in liquid-crystal displays. The work is being supported by the electronics giant Philips (Brett also receives support from Micralyne in Edmonton) with a goal of developing incredibly sharp, ultra-thin LCD monitors for televisions and computers.

Because of their inherently high porosity, which makes for a large surface area, GLAD engineered films are well-suited for use as sensing materials. Indeed, Andy Wu, a research associate in Brett's lab, has already developed humidity sensing devices that incorporate GLAD structures. Because these devices are able to respond very quickly and over a wide dynamic range, they show a potential to be superior to any humidity sensors now available commercially.

One of the most captivating visions of a nanotechnological future is of submicroscopic machines patrolling our bodies, sensing diseased cells and repairing or destroying them. While that might seem like bad science fiction, nanoscale machines might not be as fanciful as they seem. Two years ago researchers at New York University used strands of DNA to build a moving part. The device was made by connecting two double-stranded DNA spirals with a bridge of DNA. When exposed to a certain chemical solution, the tiny—only four-ten-thousandths the width of a human hair—hinge-like device bends. (In fact, the New York U scientists weren't the first to construct such a device, but previous examples were too floppy to be useful.)

While **Chris Backhouse**, '85 BSc, acknowledges that some amazing health-care innovations might arise from nanotechnology in decades to come, he's more excited about nanoscale initiatives that can bear fruit in the nearer future—in the next four or five years or so. "We shouldn't neglect the things we can do right now," says the U of A associate professor of electrical and computer engineering who has become interested in applying his expertise in building computer chips to biological challenges. Backhouse points out that nanotechnology is not altogether new. "We already have a form of nanotechnology," he says. "It's called molecular biology. It's nanotechnology copied from living cells. And that's why nanobiotech is so important.

Three years ago, Backhouse sent an e-mail to cancer researcher Linda Pilarski. He had noticed, he told her, that she worked with individual cells. He had some ideas that might complement what she was doing. Was she interested in talking with him?

Pilarski, a U of A oncology professor who works out of the Cross Cancer Institute, agreed to meet with Backhouse. They met over tea in the Cross's sunroom, and "we have been drinking tea and talking ever since," laughs Pilarski.

At the core of the collaboration between the two U of A researchers is microfabricated lab-on-a-chip technology. Developed at the University of Alberta in the early1990s by chemistry professor Jed Harrison, this technology makes possible the processing of extremely tiny amounts of fluids using devices closely akin to computer chips. In fact, these microfluidic devices are produced using exactly the same microelectronic fabrication technologies used for computer chips. Only the final product differs—instead of microconducter networks in silicon and metal, the result is a network of microscopic capillaries in glass and plastic. Along these capillaries a tiny amount of fluid is channeled by creating an electrical field on the chip. As the sample travels across the chip, it reacts with various chemicals, which are introduced at different points. As a result of these chemical reactions, the components of the sample separate; the exact quantities of the various components are then detected by a laser.

Only a couple of square centimetres in size, the chips are very portable and very fast—sometimes producing results in seconds. In addition they are economical with chemicals and with testing material: to do a standard chemical analysis the chips require only a tiny volume of test material, but are able to accurately detect trace concentrations the equivalent of one Tylenol tablet dissolved in a volume of water that would fill 12 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

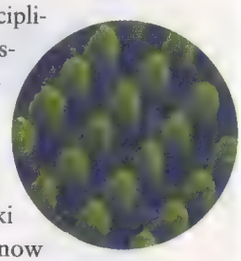
With the collaboration of other researchers at both the U of A and the University of Calgary, Pilarski and Backhouse are working to develop high-throughput microfluidic chip-based modules for analysis of genetic characteristics. The idea is to develop a quick, easy—and inexpensive—way to identify the genetic makeup of cancer cells. "We tend to think of tumours as a lump," explains Pilarski, "but the cells in a cancer tumour mass are really very heterogeneous. The lump is actually many different cells, some can be much more aggressive clones. If we knew exactly what cells were in a tumour, we could match the treatment to the cells instead of taking an average approach."

The problem is that in a cancer such as multiple myeloma different cancer cells respond differently to treatments—some of which can be pretty nasty. There's no point in subjecting a patient to a nasty treatment that won't be effective; on the other hand, an unpleasant treatment might be the only hope, explains Pilarski. In addition, she points out, it's important to be able to determine when all of the cancer cells have been eradicated; something that can't always be determined using existing technology. "The fact is," says Pilarski, "clinicians are very limited by the information available to them."

Current genetic testing is very labour intensive, involving multiple steps requiring specially trained technicians and an array of expensive equipment: it not only takes a long time to obtain results, it is very expensive. Because of the time and expense, it is something that cannot be done routinely for every patient. Backhouse's vision is a technology that makes it possible to do lab tests that are automated, standardized, and cheap. Through nanobiotechnology, he wants to shrink a roomful of expensive equipment into something that "any MD could have sitting on their desk." A complex genetic test or series of tests could be completed on material obtained right in the office from a blood sample or needle biopsy, and the testing could be completed while the patient waited.

The point is, stresses Backhouse, this is not pie-in-the-sky stuff: all of the groundwork is already in place. The various bits of the technology have been demonstrated; all that is required now is to develop and integrate the components, he says. And he is confident that in only two years he will have the pieces together—that he will be able to take a blood sample and, using microfluidic technology, be able to obtain an LED readout of the genetic profile of the cells.

Both Pilarski and Backhouse speak enthusiastically about the "incredible synergies" made possible by Edmonton's thriving nanotechnology research community, which is anchored by the University of Alberta and Micralyne. "Edmonton is really the world leader in this—in getting nanotechnology together with biotechnology," says Pilarski. The one frustration she expresses is the difficulty in obtaining funding for work which falls into the cracks between the national funding agencies which provide support for research in Canada. "Money to work as a multidisciplinary team is what's missing," says Pilarski, who has encountered difficulties in finding support from Canadian funding agencies. Pilarski and Backhouse are now seeking funding from the National Institutes of Health in the U.S.



Why look south of the border? "The head of the U.S. National Cancer Institute has frequently said that one of his goals is to develop technology to diagnose and treat someone on Mars," explains Pilarski. "These things Chris is developing are ideal for that—it is exactly what you could do, monitor disease in someone on Mars."

Talking with the researchers doing nanotechnology-related work at the University of Alberta, one encounters a very evident pride that something special is happening here. The flip side of that is a fear that without national leadership and support the momentum will stall, and Canada will be left behind. "We have missed so many opportunities," says Brett. "The microelectronics revolution completely missed Canada. Yes, we can buy chips. Yes, some people argue we have expertise, but we don't have any manufacturing facilities. We missed it entirely.

"And the genomics revolution—the same thing. None of the startups were in Canada. I don't want to miss this revolution. Because we are well placed to take advantage of it. We have enough small companies, expertise, entrepreneurs, and basic facilities to make a go of it. But we need the organized effort of a national lab to carry it forward." ■

Portions of the foregoing were adapted from a story written by Terese Brasen for the U of A publication Folio.

mascot mania:

Going inside the suit

By Jodeen Litwin

He's the guy or she's the gal inside the suit. They bring GUBA, the Great University Bear of Alberta, and his cohort, Patches, to life. Most often found at sporting events, these two likeable mascots have become recognizable symbols of the University, and they have found a special place in the memories of many University of Alberta students and alumni—not to mention numerous children (possible future alumni) who have met and hugged GUBA or Patches.

But, what is it like being inside the suit? Where do these mascots get their endless energy, outrageous antics, and go-hard-or-go-home attitude?

Suited up as GUBA, there was almost nothing that **Bill Bagshaw**, '96 BEd, wouldn't do or at least try. As GUBA, he rapelled from the roof of the Butterdome, and in his best Superman impression he came flying down from the ceiling of the Main Gym on a zip line. He even ran for Students' Union president. "Student elections always seemed a bit stale, so I thought I could liven them up a bit." Indeed he did until he was disqualified—because GUBA was leading in the polls, he says.

"It gave me the freedom to be more exuberant than I would be without the suit," says Bagshaw, recalling some of his gutsy GUBA moments. "Physically, it felt very heavy and limiting because you can't see very well. But mentally, I don't know, I felt bigger than I was—because GUBA's a strong guy."

Bagshaw compares the GUBA getup to a sleeping bag. "It's hot and confining and after you sweat in it, it gets even heavier," he says. "Sure, there's a fan," he concedes in a yah-right tone of voice. But apparently, the battery-operated fan located in GUBA's head is temperamental at best. And when it did work, it didn't actually cool things off, it just circulated the air to make breathing easier, says Bagshaw, who got used to working in the sauna-like suit and "losing about eight to 12 pounds every game."

Costume conditions aside, Bagshaw says as GUBA he was "goofy, more goofy" than his everyday self. In costume—and incognito—Bagshaw took on a persona that would do things that he would never do if he were in street clothes. "I would never run and slide on the floor in front of an attractive, young woman without the suit on," he says, smiling. Then, pausing and shaking his head, he adds, "Or do things that would cause me such pain."

A dislocated finger. A fractured heel. Whiplash. It was all part of the GUBA experience for Bagshaw, who says most, if not all, of his injuries were

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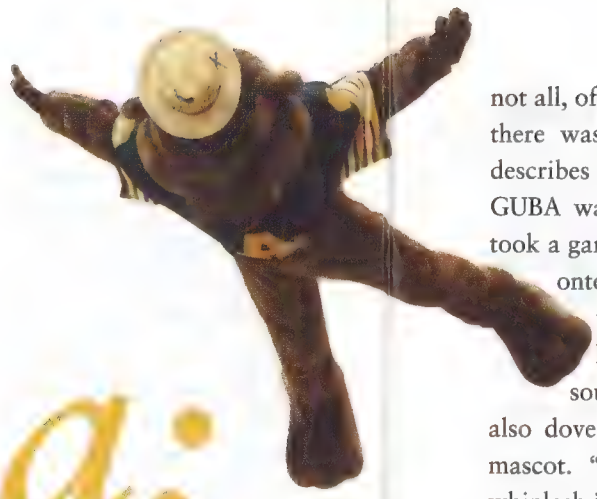

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Bagshaw, who says most, if

not all, of his injuries were self-inflicted. For example there was the football game with what Bagshaw describes quite bluntly as "a deadbeat crowd." GUBA was working hard to get fans pumped. He took a garbage can, turned it upside down, and dove onto the concrete track a few times. Dove? "It was a dive," affirms Bagshaw, smacking his hands together to emphasize the crashing sound of GUBA hitting the ground. GUBA also dove onto Barney, the University of Calgary's mascot. "That really hurt. I bruised my ribs and got whiplash."

It may sound extreme, but it was for the fans. "I always felt that I was there to entertain and get the crowd into the game," says Bagshaw. Right from the start, he was determined to live up to the high standards that he set for himself as GUBA. "When I get passionate about something I really go hard for it,' he says. "And I really went hard for this."

Bagshaw's gig as GUBA started in 1994 as a result of a dare. "A friend of mine was on the cheer team, and I told her that I thought the GUBA was crummy," says Bagshaw. Told to put his money where his mouth was by his friend, he did. After volunteering to wear the suit, Bagshaw did such a good job for a first-time GUBA that he was asked by Athletics to play the part for the rest of the year.

"It's kind of funny," says Bagshaw, with a philosophical tone. He explains that in his first year at the U of A he saw an ad in the *Gateway* for GUBA tryouts. "I thought it would be fun to do, but being a first-year student, I was too intimidated to do anything about it."

Never at a loss for crowd-enticing ideas, Bagshaw had a hoot creating characters during his two-year, full-time stint as the U of A's mascot. He was GUBA-Bond, GUBA-Skywalker, and GUBA-cowboy. High-energy and stunt-savvy, Bagshaw took GUBA to the ultimate extreme, says Julien McNulty, a recent GUBA veteran. "GUBA truly worked his mojo when his role was filled by Bill Bagshaw," says McNulty.

While GUBA sometimes scares children, Patches has always been a big hit with the youngsters. Being Patches is very different than being GUBA, says **Jacqui Alderson**, '00 BEd, '00 BPE, who first dressed up as Patches in 1996 and has also filled in as GUBA. The difference: "Patches is more snuggly," says Alderson.

A Bear's eye view

By **Julien McNulty** fourth-year student, French/Spanish

I became acquainted with GUBA (by the way, it is pronounced GOOBA, as in *The Flintstones*'s grand POOBA) after a series of desperate urgings. At the beginning of my second year, 1998, and never being one to shy away from a potentially good prank opportunity, I agreed to dress up as GUBA for the annual student orientation rally at Hawrelak Park. Three years later I'm a GUBA veteran.

Everyone loves to know interesting tidbits about GUBA, so here are a few. Guba can get away with bloody murder. He's been in fights with players, surfed in a mosh pit, and was kicked out of a hockey game for "causing a disturbance." GUBA likes long ponytails, and if any other guy walked up to a woman and tried to twirl her ponytail, he'd get slapped, but not GUBA. And GUBA has access to restricted areas. Really, who's going to stop a big bear?

And the fame. I would often stay hours after a game to sign autographs. I once signed a kid's arm cast and wouldn't trade the look on his face after I signed it for anything. It's really cool to put a smile on a child's face.

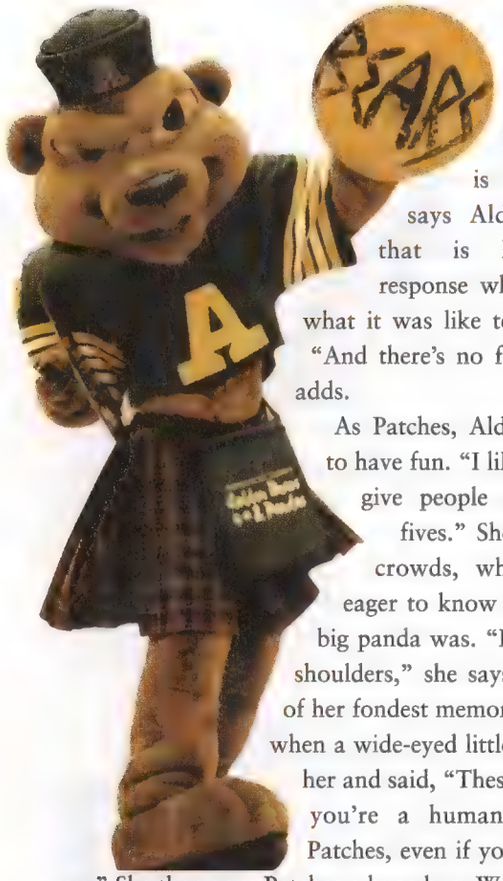
But sometimes kids can be mean. A mascot's golden rule is NO fighting, NO talking, but when children reach the age that they realize GUBA is just a stuffed bear, they take advantage of this. GUBA once got a gang beating by a dozen 10 year olds at a hockey game. Security thinks it is cute, but the man behind the mask is in REAL pain!

There are a couple incidents I remember with fondness. The first was Homecoming '98: the football Golden Bears versus the Manitoba Bisons at Commonwealth Stadium. I had torn the cartilage in my left knee the day before and was in sheer pain. I didn't have time to find a replacement. (Besides, it was homecoming, and I was in denial.) It had rained the night before and there were huge puddles on the track. I went barreling around the track in a go-cart catching a puddle behind the Manitoba players' bench and covering their backs with dirty water. Boy, did I catch flack! Somebody important came down (I know this because he had a two-way radio) and said that I had to cut that out because "upstairs" was furious! Later my foot got caught under a gate in the stands—I practically fell down the stairs. In my pain, all I could hear was, "Hey Look! GUBA is sauced! Here's a beer, sit down and drink buddy!".

Later in the season at a basketball game there was a little kid (he came up to my knee) shooting hoops at halftime. The crowd was watching him, moaning every time he missed. Someone suggested I put him on my shoulders, so I did. This was THE shot, right? No, he shanked it. I let him down, and he went to run away. I stopped him and gestured that he take one more shot. He lined up on the three-point line ... nothing but net! The crowd went nuts! I gave him the game-ball that I autographed. (A picture of the kid with GUBA is up in RATT now.)

In departing, I just want to say that good fans make the job great, and lousy fans make it suck. There are a few basketball fans I see at every game. I think that they are Golden Bear forward Ryan Baldry's friends, but they truly are SUPER fans and they make my job great. Kendall and company, you guys are GOLDEN.

If you have any memories of your days on campus that you would like to share, we'd love to hear them. We will post them on the Alumni Association Web site or print them in *New Trail*, where your friends and classmates will be able to read them. Please provide electronic copies of text where possible. You can send them to alumni@ualberta.ca or to *New Trail*, 6th Floor GSB, University of Alberta, T6G 2H1.



But, like the GUBA-gear, Patches' costume is "blistering hot," says Alderson. In fact, that is her immediate response when she is asked what it was like to be in the suit. "And there's no fan," she quickly adds.

As Patches, Alderson was there to have fun. "I liked to dance and give people hugs and high-fives." She also teased the crowds, who were always eager to know what gender the big panda was. "I'd just shrug my shoulders," she says, laughing. One of her fondest memories is of the time when a wide-eyed little girl came up to her and said, "These people say that you're a human in there, but Patches, even if you are, I still love you." She then gave Patches a huge hug. Watching all of this was the little girl's brother, about three-years-old. Not wanting to be left out, he quietly said, "I love you if you're a human too."

Although the suit gives the wearer a celebrity status, there is a downside. Alderson says the worst is when people take advantage of the fact that you are in the mascot costume. "There are times when kids kick or punch—actually, sometimes students will too," she says. Bagshaw and McNulty agree. As GUBA, these two have both experienced gang beatings by unruly kids. Another annoyance, says Bagshaw, is the really intoxicated guy who tries to pick a fight with the University's Great Bear.

Hostile fans not included, being the University's mascot was a positive experience for these alumni of the suit. And when they shared their memories, their reminiscences were often interrupted with laughter.

But there comes a time to pass on the suit and the experience to someone else. Bagshaw says he felt it was time to retire when he had exhausted every stunt that he could think of—or could do in the suit. However, GUBA will always be an enormous part of his U of A experience, and he hopes that he can be supportive to whoever is in the suit. "What's most important is to get GUBA out there."

How it all started: the making of a mascot— GUBA made his debut on campus in early 1970—the same time that people were watching *Marcus Welby M.D.* and *Hawaii Five-O* on the TV, listening to *American Woman* on the radio, and wearing bell-bottoms. GUBA's creator was **Chuck Moser, '64 BPE, '72 MA,** who at the time was the assistant athletic director at the University.

The idea for GUBA came about when Moser, who now works in development and alumni affairs for the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, was honeymooning in Hawaii. There he and his bride took in the Rainbow Classic, a basketball tournament. "I was always interested in improving things at the U of A to promote athletics," says Moser, who saw the Rainbow Classic as a great opportunity to garner new ideas. And, at the same time, he and his wife, who is a huge fan of the sport, were anticipating watching some "darn good basketball."

Although the tournament drew teams from universities across the States, it was the Brigham Young Cougars that stood out for Moser. It wasn't the team or even the female dance troupe that caught Moser's attention, it was the team's mascot. "He was unbelievable—I couldn't take my eyes off the things that he did," recalls Moser. "He had the Hawaiian people—everyone—eating out of his hands."

Eureka! Moser turned to his wife and said, "This is what I'm going to do when I get home—I'm going to get a mascot for the Golden Bears."

Creating and designing the mascot was "fun and exciting." At a local costume shop—after several meetings—senior seamstresses made the first GUBA suit using gold, fuzzy, could-be-a-chesterfield material. A rubber mask (worn

GUBA in his original suit at a basketball game in the early 1970s.

close to the face) and gloves completed the look.

To fill the suit Moser didn't need to look farther than the U of A's basketball courts. That's where he found **John Struger**, '76 BEd, who Moser recalls as being "a gym rat."

Sitting in Moser's office for hours, these two would meet almost daily to discuss the mission of the mascot. After a few weeks, Moser and the athletics department decided that it was time to unveil the mascot (who at this point was nameless). They picked the men's basketball game where the U of A was taking on UBC—a big game because the last time these two teams met the U of A won in overtime.

The time came for the mascot's debut, and according to Moser, "If you were a movie producer you couldn't have written a better script."

The main gym was packed. There was fanfare as the cheer squad carried the covered mascot into the gym on a stretcher. When in position, the mascot whipped off the sheet and started running around the gym—hands in the air. After playing with some kids, it was time for the mascot to do something. So, the mascot took a green-and-gold-coloured basketball; it looked like as if he was going to take a shot from around the foul line.

"Now John had played basketball—he wasn't Golden Bear calibre, but he was good enough that he could dribble," says Moser, who remembers thinking, "Okay John, take your time, pick your shot, make sure it's something you can make." But with a very gutsy attitude, the mascot looked at the crowd, shook his head, and backed up to the very top of the key. "Now, the crowd is hushed; they are waiting to see what this guy can do. And I'm sweating because I said to him, 'John, don't try something that's going to make you look like an idiot—start with something successful.'"

Egged on by the cheer squad and the crowd, the mascot continued to back up. "I'm going crazy," says Moser in a voice that evokes the same anxiety that he felt at that moment. "John backs up all the way to the centre line, and I'm thinking he is going to wreck the whole thing by trying to do a long shot—there isn't a hope in hell.'" The crowd fell silent as Struger pretended to get ready and faked a few shots. "Then he gets down into position, puts the ball up, and, I tell you, I will never forget this moment for as long as I live," says Moser. "The ball arched up and never made a sound as it went right through the hoop

"Swoosh," remembers Struger. "Everyone went bananas and so did I." Struger says he recalls winding up for the shot and aiming. The rest, he says, was luck. (Although he does say that he would wear the suit when he practised.)

On the weekend following the mascot's grand entrance there was a name-the-bear contest in conjunction with a Bears' basketball game. Moser recalls that there were "a ton of entries," including The Cub, which made it to the final cut. But it was GUBA, Great University Bear Alberta—submitted by then student Dave Zaharko, who went on to become a CFL linebacker—that won over the naming committee. "In fact the committee was almost unanimous," says Moser. "The name had the most insightful approach, the most imagination, and it was short and snappy," says Moser. (By the way, Zaharko won a keg of beer for his winning entry.)

Moser, who rejoined the staff of the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation about a year ago, was not on campus for the mascot's makeover in the early 1990s. However, the transformation was inevitable, he says. "This new GUBA is part of the new era of mascots where you are not supposed to see human eyes." It was also around this same time that Patches, GUBA's-partner-in-crowd-pleasing-crime, arrived onto the campus scene.

As with the others who were inside the suit, Struger who played the part for one year says, life as GUBA was good. Now a teacher at Kenilworth Junior High, Struger can often be found sitting in the stands cheering on U of A teams. His reaction when he sees GUBA: "I smile because I know what he, or she, is going through, and how hard they are working to get the crowd going in a positive way."

And how they must be sweating in that suit, jokes Struger. Those who have been GUBA or Patches remember many things about their suited-up experience, but most of all they all remember how hot it was. Apparently, even after 31 years, some things never change. ■

The 2001

Alumni Association Leadership Awards

It's a celebration of outstanding students who contribute to the betterment of the University and the greater community.

Every year the University of Alberta Alumni Association salutes the achievements of U of A students—future alumni—by awarding scholarships to students who, through their involvement in the community and on campus, demonstrate strong leadership abilities.

"I was thoroughly impressed with how much students today are doing to benefit the University and their communities while maintaining academic excellence," says **Heike Juergens**, '72 BA, '79 MEd, '87 PhD, the Alumni Association's vice-president (student life) and chair of the selection committee. Juergens says the selection of the six 2001 Leadership Award winners was far from easy—there were so many outstanding candidates, students who serve as excellent examples of volunteers with long-standing commitments to help better the University and the community.

New Trail spoke with five of the 2001 scholarship recipients—they are an impressive bunch. Here's what these leaders of tomorrow had to say about the quality of leadership and leaders they admire.

Melanie Kardel

Bachelor of Science, Molecular Genetics
Alumni Council Millennium Scholarship

On or off campus, Melanie willingly participates in extracurricular activities. She is involved with the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus as a chorus member and as the group's financial officer. She was also a University of Alberta orientation leader. Melanie's community involvement includes her volunteer work at the Misericordia Hospital and being a mentor to students at McCauley Elementary School. In her downtime, Melanie says, nothing beats relaxing in Quad on sunny days.

Hometown: Edmonton
High School: Old Scona Academic
What does being a leader mean to you? A good leader is someone who leads by example. They are hard workers who are reliable, loyal, dedicated, and they can always be counted on getting the job done and getting the job done right.
Who is the leader you most admire? The first one that springs to mind is Alberta's lieutenant governor, the Honourable Lois Hole. Why? I have always admired her as someone who is generous, hardworking, intelligent, and kind. She always puts so much of herself into everything she does. Basically, an all-round amazing person.

Nicole Koch

Bachelor of Science, Kinesiology
Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship

During the school term, Nicole keeps a hectic pace on campus with her studies and her roles as a floor coordinator and vice-president, operations, at Lister Hall. Nicole also participates in the U of A's Residence Life Training and is an athletic therapist for the Pandas and Golden Bears wrestling teams. Off campus, Nicole is an active member in the 4-H Club. When she does have time to relax, her favourite U of A hangout is "anywhere with my friends."

Hometown: Compeer, Alberta
High School: Altario High
What does being a leader mean to you? A leader is a person who is a role model and is determined, motivated, organized and reliable. Leaders work extremely hard to accomplish their own goals, but also strive to accomplish goals or complete tasks that will benefit or be in the best interests of others (sometimes involving personal sacrifices), while conveying integrity, and a genuine concern, care, and respect for others.
Who is the leader you most admire? Nelson Mandela Why? He is a very strong individual—very determined and motivated. He stood strong for what he believed, and he worked to benefit others and was determined to bring about change for the betterment of society despite being persecuted and the victim of racism. It is his level of motivation, drive, and integrity that we desire to have in our leaders

Jesse Kao

Bachelor of Science, Bic
Reginald Charles Lister Me

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the Golden Bears wre
assistant at HUB, an
Discipline Board. He als
Cancer Institute. Jesse
University experience—
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for inviting large grou
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High school: Sir Winstor
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Jesse Kao

Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry
Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship.

In addition to his studies, Jesse is a member of the Golden Bears wrestling team, a residence assistant at HUB, and a member of HUB's Discipline Board. He also volunteers at the Cross Cancer Institute. Jesse says his most memorable University experience—to date—was in his first year. After a long day, he trudged up to his HUB apartment, which he shared with a friend famous for inviting large groups to their abode. Jesse walked into the crowded room, sat down on the couch, and took off his shoes. He noticed the place got quiet. It wasn't his room. "Sheepishly, I quickly departed, without bothering to put my shoes back on. Yes, in case you didn't know, HUB stairwells are almost completely identical."

Hometown: Calgary

High school: Sir Winston Churchill

What does being a leader mean to you? As times change, new challenges and conflicts emerge. But there is one thing that holds the people of a society together—its leaders. To me, being a leader entails setting a good example for others and striving to have a positive impact on those around you. It's very important to have leaders on the playing field, in the classroom, and around the community. Leaders encourage us to be our best—not just for accomplishing our personal goals but for keeping things in perspective, like devoting time and attention to those in less fortunate circumstances.

Who is the leader you most admire? Mahatma Gandhi Why? Amidst all the turmoil, he never wavered in his beliefs and goals for a free India. His conviction for passive resistance gained the respect of both his people and the British. Even after Gandhi's death, his example and teachings continued to influence others, most notably Martin Luther King.

Shalene Jobin

Bachelor of Commerce
Maimie S. Simpson Memorial Scholarship

A dedicated volunteer for the Business Students' Association, Shalene says that getting involved in all aspects of campus life enriched her University experience. Shalene was a student ambassador for the School of Business and a student ambassador guiding education for the School of Native Studies. She also held the role of vice-president, communications, for AIESEC, a student organization that facilitates international work exchanges. And the AIESEC office, located on the second floor of the Business Building, was Shalene's favourite U of A hangout.

Hometown: Edmonton

High School: Ross Sheppard

What does being a leader mean to you? A leader is someone who acts with integrity in every situation. This person leads by example and motivates people into action. Leaders shine with confidence because of their inherent belief in the ability of others.

Who is the leader you most admire? Sonia Wong, a fellow U of A graduate. Why?Sonia is an international student, who has completed her last three years at the U of A. She is very involved in the community, continuously volunteering her time. Sonia leads by example and motivates people with her presence. She always has a smile on her face and is always available even if she is extremely busy. Sonia Wong is an inspiration.

Michelle V. Carle

Bachelor of Science, Neuroscience
Alumni 75th Anniversary Scholarship

The president of the Social Action Committee at St. Joseph's College, Michelle says filling her time with athletics, student leadership roles, and studies is just a "way of life." Michelle finds time to volunteer as a guide at the McMullen Patient Art Gallery and to work as a volunteer in the University of Alberta Hospital's Emergency Room. When it comes to where she likes to hang out, Michelle jokes that it "depends upon what's on tap." Kidding aside, Michelle, who was recently voted MVP for the Pandas cross-country team, can usually be found on the track, in the Pandas' track and field locker room, or relaxing in SUB.

Hometown: Sherwood Park, Alberta

High School: Salisbury Composite

What does being a leader mean to you? A leader is one who puts out that extra effort to not only get things done but to motivate others—through action, effort, and example—to take action in a positive way. Leaders create a more-just world, making others realize a responsibility to people we can and cannot see, and they impact many lives, making life easier—for life is often unnecessarily difficult—for people.

Who is the leader you most admire? Mother Teresa. Why? She led by example and loved what she did. She cared for those who needed care, her presence changed many lives and her legacy will change many more. Mother Teresa eased the suffering of many, and did it wholeheartedly every time.

(Missing from the photo is Genevieve Burdett, who was awarded a Reginald Charles Lister Memorial Scholarship. Genevieve holds several volunteer positions. She is life skills volunteer at the Terra Association and helps out at the Downs Syndrome Support Group. At the U of A, Genevieve helped with the creation of the Human Ecology Theme House. On her time off, Genevieve can be found doing the tango, salsa, or swing—she's a member of the U of A Dance Club.) ■

student orientation:

Then and Now

By Deborah Waldman

Ashley Tozzolo didn't plan to attend orientation at the U of A last fall. She's from Edmonton, and her older sister, a university student, told her it wasn't necessary. But at the last minute, Ashley ignored her sister's advice. She went to orientation, and she's grateful she did.

"I would have been so lost on my first day if I hadn't gone," she says. More important, she made a great friend, a first-year student from Nanaimo. "We had just like a million things in common," she says. "I wouldn't have met her if I hadn't gone, and I know that we're going to be really good friends for a long time."

Easing students into university life, both academically and socially, is the goal of orientation, according to Suzie Cuts, orientation volunteer coordinator. A fifth-year student doing a combined science-education degree, Cuts began volunteering at orientation during her second year at university.

She wasn't the only one: more than 500 student volunteers work at orientation, quite an increase since the first student-run orientation back in 1966. And while the programming is always updated, some things have stayed the same: it is designed and run by students, to give new students as comprehensive an introduction as possible to all aspects of university life. And it gets rave reviews around campus, from students, professors, and the university administration.

"I think it's absolutely necessary," says **Craig Montgomerie**, '67 BSc(Eng), '73 MEd, '81 PhD, an orientation volunteer in 1966 who is now a professor in the Faculty of Education. "I look at students here. Some are extremely worldly and have no problems getting along. But there are still isolated places in Alberta or in the world and those students come here and are absolutely blown away by the size of this campus and they need someone to say, 'hey, this is what you need to get around.'"

Katherine Huising, '89 BA, manager of entertainment and programming for the Students' Union, agrees with Montgomerie. "Research has shown that students who have gone through an orientation program do better academically, are less likely to drop out, have an easier transition and become more involved sooner," she says. "They understand that they need to have a balanced life on campus."

Although some new students may be familiar with the campus, either because they grew up in Edmonton or have an older sibling at University, many more don't know their way around, what to bring to classes, and what services, programs, and activities are available outside of academic life.

Orientation "is there for people to meet new people and have fun and get that queasy feeling out of their stomach," Cuts says.

"University is a lot different from high school," she adds. That may seem obvious, but to a new student the differences can come as a shock. And one of the most confusing aspects of life for a new student is figuring out how to negotiate the campus itself.

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"For high school, you're basically in one building," Cuts says. "With more than 50 buildings, new students are lost their first couple of days. So one of the main things we do is provide a tour of campus. We take them around and show them where their classes are, and that really eases the tension for a lot of people, especially for people from a small town."

Until 1997, orientation was an optional program that took place throughout July and August. Students could come for either a day or a weekend. Student Orientation Services, or SOrSe, as it was known, was an outgrowth of the first orientation program, Freshman Orientation Seminars, which was developed by student leaders 35 years ago. (See sidebar.) SOrSe was run by the Students' Union and attracted between 1,000 and 1,500 students each summer. Then, in 1996, the University approached the Students' Union about working together on an orientation program.

During the next year and a half, a number of changes were made, including scheduling orientation for two days immediately before the start of classes in September. Before the 1997-98 academic year, Vice-President (Academic) Doug Owram sent a letter to each incoming student strongly suggesting that they attend. The OneCard office told new students that if they wanted to get a card (the student identity/library card), they would have to attend orientation.

The changes have paid off. "Since 1997 our numbers have increased dramatically," Huising says. "We saw almost 5,000 students coming through the program last year.

"We're offering the same basics—an academic session, a student life session, a campus tour—but we have more time to give them that information. And we have their full attention because they're just about ready to start classes."

When students register for orientation, they're divided into groups of between 20 and 30, all from within their own faculty. Each group has two student leaders, also from the same faculty. The leaders conduct the tour, take the students through various activities, and answer questions that range from "How long do I have to pay my tuition?" to "Where is Room TBA?"

"It's a great program," says Cuts, who came to the U of A in 1997 from Kinuso, a tiny town three hours north of Edmonton. There were five students in her graduating class, including her. Her school went from kindergarten to grade 12. It had one hallway.

When she arrived at the U of A she was nervous. "I definitely had some anxiety," she says. "But my sister was involved in orientation a year before I came, and she said, 'Don't worry about it -- they're going to show you where all your classes are. You're going to be fine.' So I knew it was going to help and it did."

Because she's volunteered to work at every orientation since 1998, Cuts has had a chance to observe the sorts of students who come to the program. "People from Edmonton who have been to campus before and are pretty familiar with it have that cocky attitude and sometimes you can't do much for them, but sometimes they stay and they love it," she says. "They can always learn if they give it a chance.

"Then you get people who are totally scared and really need the program, and then the people in between, who aren't quite scared but don't know everything about university and are fine in admitting that."

Orientation volunteers present two main sessions about academics and student life. In the academic session, students learn about such topics as exams, the student code of behavior, what to bring to class, and the nine-point grading system.

There is also a session called "Healthy and Successful," where peer health educators and campus security officers discuss topics including safety, health, and nutrition.

At the student life session, students learn about activities, sports, volunteering,

On a fall day in 1963, Craig Montgomerie's dad and mom drove him from their home in Lethbridge to the University of Alberta, where he was about to begin his studies in the Faculty of Engineering. His dad parked the car at the back end of Assinaboia Hall and Montgomerie went to get his room key. Then his dad helped him carry a couple of things up to his room, said, "I guess you have to get on with your life," and headed back to Lethbridge.

"That," Montgomerie recalls, "was my orientation."

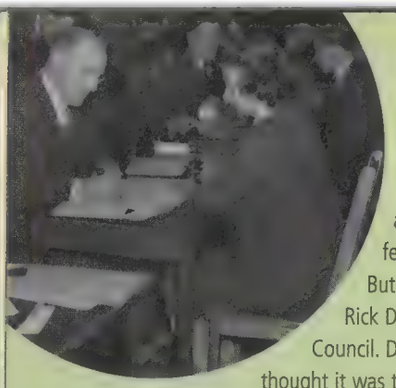
Montgomerie got so homesick he almost moved back to Lethbridge before the end of the semester. So perhaps it's not surprising that when some fellow students decided to organize a student orientation for incoming students in 1966, he got involved.

"That was a very altruistic era," he recalls. "I'm quite sure we were saying yes, anything we can do to help these new students feel more at home here, we'll do it."

Orientation was the brainchild of **Glenn Sinclair**, '66 BA, '68 BEd, '70 MEd, '78 PhD, who was coordinator of student activities for the Students' Union -- a position now known as VP Student Services -- when he came up with the idea while sitting around with some drinking buddies one afternoon in early spring of 1966.

"I said, 'the real problem on this campus, like every other one I've been on and know about, is that we don't do a good job helping freshmen know their way around and making them feel comfortable. Either we terrorize them with hazing like they do in Ontario or we simply make it a big party,'" recalls Sinclair, now an Edmonton-based management consultant who is helping to organize a 35th-year-reunion for students who were participants and volunteers in the first years of Freshman Orientation Seminar, or FOS.

continued on page 26



Freshmen registration, 24 September 1940.

Sinclair's idea was to bring 10 to 12 students together at a time and give them an opportunity to meet professors and campus leaders. His friends laughed at him. But back in his office at SUB, Sinclair proposed the idea to Rick Dewar, '64 BSc, '68 MD, the med rep to the Student Council. Dewar was impressed. So was the Council. "They thought it was the greatest thing since diced beets," Sinclair recalls.

But the push was on, because Sinclair wanted an orientation that summer, and summer was fast approaching. He had no money, no volunteers, no organization, and no programming. What he did have was enthusiasm, which was apparently contagious. U of A president at the time, **Walter H. Johns**, '70 LLD (Honorary), personally returned Sinclair's phone call and invited him and Dewar to dinner to offer suggestions and support.

"All that week I practiced eating peas. I practiced not spilling them off my fork," Sinclair recalls. As Mrs. Johns served dinner—including peas—Dr. Johns went down a list of all the reasons freshman orientation wouldn't work. Then he listed all the reasons he would make sure it did.

The fledgling FOS also got a boost from the province. Sinclair got in touch with Bob Clark, then the Minister of Youth, who designated one of his staffers to help the students put together a proposal for funds, which were then granted.

That summer nearly 15 students and eight parents showed up for FOS. By 1968, there were 20 seminars averaging 20 students each.

"A lot of these students had never been anywhere near University before and a lot of their advice was from well-meaning but not necessarily well-informed guidance counselors," Sinclair recalls. "We took them through a mock registration and showed them what their courses would be like."

They also introduced the incoming students to professors and student leaders, invited speakers who could address topics such as student loans, and did everything else they could to help the prospective freshmen understand what life would be like once they became students. In some cases, FOS volunteers even helped the new students figure out whether they belonged at the U of A.

"We had kids who came who still weren't sure if they should come to University," Sinclair says. "Some of them, we told them, 'you may not want to start out going to University, but to a junior college.' After the first year we had kids who realized we were right and changed and went to NAIT or wherever."

Sinclair ran FOS for three years. The fourth year he ran a program that combined FOS, high school visitation, Freshman Introduction Week and Varsity Guest Weekend. But FOS has always remained close to his heart.

"At the time, we never thought anything of it being phenomenal," he says. "If you saw something that needed to be done on campus, you just did it. I can remember somebody asking in 1969 at a meeting, 'what do you hope your legacy is?' I said, 'I don't care if nobody remembers my name. I just hope that when I come back in 25 years, there's still an orientation process.'"

And there is.

For more information about the reunion, visit the Web site www.quasar.ualberta.ca/~CraigM/fos

and "everything that makes the university whole other than academics," Cuts says.

Last year the orientation staff introduced a game called TUBA, or To University and Beyond Activity. Students had to complete different tasks, some academic, some social, within a limited time-frame meant to simulate the academic year.

"It was meant to tell the student that you may not be able to have it all—that there is a balance that students need to find between achieving socially and academically," Cuts explains. "Sometimes, if you want good grades, you can't have a really active social life."

One of the most popular events at orientation is the President's Address, the final activity of the two-day program. All the orientation participants gather at Hawrelak Park at around 7 p.m. to hear University President **Rod Fraser**, '61 BA, '63 MA, and the president of the Students' Union speak. They're still divided by faculty, and according to Cuts, each faculty tries to outdo the other by yelling out faculty cheers.

"It's basically a huge pep rally. The enthusiasm is really high, says Cuts, who likens the energy level to that of a playoff hockey game. It's not exactly what you might expect from young adults about to begin studies in higher education. But it certainly fits with the basic theme of orientation. "One of our main goals is for people to interact, to meet each other, and have fun," Cuts says. "It's not just about learning." ■

Eldon & Anne Foote

making a difference

at the University of Alberta

Anne and Eldon Foote live far from Edmonton on tiny Norfolk Island, but their presence is felt daily at the University of Alberta, where Eldon excelled as a track and field athlete, was active in student affairs, and was the graduating class valedictorian in 1948.

Following his graduation from the Faculty of Law, Eldon Foote, '45 BSc, '48 LLB, successfully practised law for 19 years before he decided to seize an opportunity. In 1967, having learned about a company called HomCare, he took leave from his law practice to open a HomCare franchise in Australia. His success in Australia caught the attention of the corporate head office of the company, which is based on the marketing of household consumables by a sales force of homemakers, and he was asked to help expand the business internationally. In 1969 he took the franchise to Hong Kong and Japan, and today HomCare products are being distributed by 50,000 Japanese homemakers.

In March 1997, Mr. Foote sold his interest in the HomCare business so that he and his wife, Anne, might pursue other interests. The base for their present pursuits is their home on tiny, remote Norfolk Island, a speck in the South Pacific, more than 1,000 kilometres off the east coast of Australia.

The Footes strongly believe in giving back for what they received, and the University of Alberta has been a major beneficiary of the couple's generosity. They are making a difference at the University in many ways. Through the Eldon Foote Track and Field Scholarships, through nursing scholarships (Anne was involved in the nursing profession for many years), through the Eldon Foote Chair in International Business Law, and through their contribution to the refurbishing of the Faculty of Law's moot courtroom.

Recently the Foote's made another major gift to the University when they provided $2 million of support for the South Campus Athletic Training Facility. That facility, now to be known as Foote Field, will be a venue for a variety of University and community athletic activities including track and field and Golden Bears football after it serves as a major training venue for the 2001 World Championships in Athletics.

With their support for a wide range of activities all across campus, the Footes are helping to make the University of Alberta a better place.

You, too, can make a difference

Alumni support is important to the University's future. To discuss how you can be part of the University's success, call Smart Smardon at (780) 492-3130.

Blooming *in* Bhu

In Bhutan, the people are like the flowers: isolated and magnificent

The average Himalayan valley in Bhutan is so steep, deep and isolated that, through the millennia, the seeds of many floral species have been unable to scale the soaring peaks and migrate to adjoining valleys. "This means there are endemic species in each valley," says Dr. Andreas Kåre Hellum.

In some respects, the people of Bhutan are similar to the floral species found there: both remain somewhat unnoticed (and undisturbed) by the world beyond their borders.

Hellum is one of the few Westerners to have witnessed the pristine beauty of Bhutan, which is nestled among India, China and the scarcely-heard-of region of Sikkim. The former professor of silviculture and current professor emeritus at the University of Alberta went to Bhutan by invitation as a forestry consultant in 1988 for two years. On his weekdays there, Hellum worked to organize a Bhutanese foundation for forestry research. He spent his weekends painting species of the local flora, of which many had never been seen outside of Bhutan.

"The flora in Bhutan is incredibly diverse," Hellum says. "It ranges from tropical in the South to alpine in the Himalayan ramparts in the North."

Hellum's paintings, along with his written diary of anecdotes and observations, have produced *A Painter's Year in the Forests of Bhutan*, a recent release from the University of Alberta Press.

"This book is not about the art, science, or business of forestry; it is about a forester and his relationships with people, young and old, in Bhutan ... It is a tribute to the natural history, people, and religion of this remote and beautiful country," U of A professor of renewable resources Paul Woodard writes in a review of *A Painter's Year in the Forests of Bhutan* to appear in the *Journal of Forestry* this summer.

For Hellum, getting his thoughts and drawings published after more than 10 years was a small hurdle compared to some he faced in Bhutan. "Soon after I arrived, I realized there is no word for the English word 'research' in Dzongkha [the native language of Bhutan], so I quickly found out the people I was to work with had no idea why I was there ... They eventually made up a word for [research] but I was never able to learn what it was."

"When I talked about setting up a research forestry organization and making five and 10-year long-term plans, they looked at me like I was crazy. They don't make long-term plans in Bhutan; they might make plans for 14 days or three weeks in advance, but only if they were based on the moon, the stars, and the weather and such things," Hellum says.

His cultural expectations were often "shattered" in Bhutan, but this greatly pleased Hellum. "In our society and culture we are bombarded with noise, pressure, and

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By Ryan Smith

advertising. Our space is constantly being invaded and nobody really sits down and listens. I found silence, and silence allows for a regenerative process, an opportunity to really listen to ourselves and dream," he says.

Since he left Bhutan in 1990, Hellum has worked as a forestry consultant in other locales around the world and has published books about the flora of Guyana and Thailand. The father of three and his wife currently live in Edmonton, where Hellum works as a translator of Norwegian, the language of his native country. He has not returned to Bhutan since he left, though he would dearly like to.

"It's extremely difficult to get a permit to go there unless you're invited," he says. "And if you're lucky enough to get one, it costs between $200 and $300 US a day—they really try to protect their culture from outside influences, and I don't blame them one bit."

In hopes of getting a return invitation, Hellum has sent a copy of his book to the King of Bhutan. "I doubt I'll ever hear anything back," he says. "They don't normally communicate well with the outside world."

However, if Hellum felt frustration with the Bhutan people and their way of doing some things, those feelings are linked closely to his love for them. "I've dedicated my book to the people of Bhutan because they were always relaxed and reaching out to me ... I have a great sense of thankfulness to them. They made my experience absolutely rich and unique." ■

Teaching tips—being relational

University of Alberta nursing professor **Brenda Cameron,** *'72 BSc(Nu), '98 PhD, recipient of the 2000 U of A Rutherford Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, shares some of the teaching techniques that work for her.*

At the heart of my teaching is the relation I develop with my students. To look over a class and see each face is to be responsible for them on both a teaching and personal level. For in the very near future, my nursing students will look into the face of suffering, death, and struggle, and the rapport I develop with them serves as a forerunner for their nursing experiences; they need to connect with, and understand individuals quickly.

My approach to teaching is closely allied with my profession. The nature of nursing requires that choices and critical decisions be made among many competing and complex possibilities. I can only prepare the student for this by creating a relational space where the student, the subject, and I come forth—just as they must in the moment of care.

Added to this is the challenge of maintaining a respectful connection with students in the midst of ever-growing and often overwhelming chaos and complexities in our personal and professional lives.

In the face of all of this, how can we develop a relation with students, and not push them off the desk or out of the classroom too quickly?

Cameron's teaching tips:

■ Call out and listen to students. Think of the classroom as a meeting place and genuinely ask how they are as a way of asking who they are.

■ Be cognizant that students today carry heavy personal loads. Listen for these and how they interfere with learning.

■ Think of your initial "how are you?" as a magnetic field; if it is truly asked, it collects indiscriminately everything in its path. The information you gather is then yours to sort through and consider along with course content and potential learning.

■ Impart courage and confidence. Ask students where they are in their learning and challenge them to access the material with as much of themselves as possible. Give them a sense that they can learn the content and incorporate it into their lives. Most importantly, stay with them during this process.

■ Be personal. I have often tapped into a student's interest or engagement in only a few seconds, not so much because of teaching skills, but more because of how I reveal and present myself.

■ Build a relation through your daily, ordinary teaching interactions. A clear course outline, a well-placed question, a few moments in the hall, or an extra paragraph of comments on a paper create a connection and invoke learning.

■ Be aware of the effect of your behavior on others and show respect for the students. In the classroom and interculturally, we must be very aware of, and responsible for, each and every action of ours; how it facilitates, detracts from learning.

■ Get to know the students. I often place my students in areas of acute care with highly sophisticated technologies, and in rural, northern, and international settings. The only way I can be certain that they will be safe personally and professionally, is getting to know them. In knowing the individual student, we can determine an appropriate course of action and support.

■ What makes this different from a friendship dialogue? It is your subject, your on-going discussion of your content area, i.e., for myself, the particular ways of living out the text and the practices of nursing. It is your belief and confidence that students can learn and add to the discourse with their academic learning activities.

■ Be present. If we are present, so are our students. Even if we are absent in ourselves some days due to the pressure of a grant deadline, know that the short absence is helpful as it highlights what was there once — a teacher, a class, questioning, discussion.

■ If you have to hand the student to someone else because of the nature of an issue, make certain it is someone who will carry the action through. If not, do it yourself.

■ Be mindful that students watch everything in class. They often know before we do how we feel this particular day. There is a certain vulnerability in students that makes them watchful. Hold this vulnerability close to your heart because in so doing, you too remain watchful.

■ Remind yourself often of those glorious times in the teaching relation where you are right there in the midst of the mind, body, person of the student, amid the vibrant and living class, thinking forward not only to understanding but generating new knowledge.

■ When a silence falls in class after discussions, don't rush to fill it with words. Know that you have created a thoughtful and reflective space and have done it well.

■ Love your students as you love your subject and your world — students are our hope and our future.

New Trail congratulates the winners of the 2001 Rutherford Awards for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

Florence Gobeil-Dwyer
Faculté Saint-Jean

Walter Allegretto
Mathematical Sciences

K. Nandakumar
Chemical and Materials Engineering

Susan E. Gibson
Elementary Education

Wo Sang Young
Mathematical Sciences

U of A heads national research on literacy

University of Alberta researchers have added another credit to their list of accomplishments. Linda Phillips, a professor in the Faculty of Education, and her colleagues recently received one of the biggest grants ever awarded to a single project in the social sciences and humanities in Canada to coordinate research on literacy.

Located in the Faculty of Education, the University of Alberta's Centre for Research on Literacy learned that it will play a major role in one of four recently announced national Networks of Centres of Excellence, together receiving $73 million in funding from three federal agencies: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Canadian Institutes for Health Research.

Linda Phillips is the director of the University of Alberta's Centre for Research on Literacy

Phillips, the director of the U of A's Centre for Research on Literacy, and her team will coordinate the literacy arm of the Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network, which received $14 million and is based at the University of Western Ontario. The U of A's literacy centre will receive $1.9 million of the $6 million devoted to literacy studies for research conducted at the University.

Working with more than 20 scholars from across the country, the U of A's literacy centre will study a wide range of topics to learn more about the complex conditions that help or hinder literacy.

"[The grant] recognizes that in so much of what we do, literacy is fundamental," says Phillips, who says there is still a great to learn about literacy. "We're looking at it from not just an educational perspective but from medical, health, psychological, social and economic perspectives as well."

Some of the many projects currently underway at the centre involve working with new findings on dyslexia, looking at literacy as it relates to children who have learning disabilities, and examining literacy and second-language considerations. The U of A literacy centre will also team up with Edmonton's Centre for Family Literacy, helping parents learn skills to help impart literacy to their children.

The U of A-based research will run for four years at which time it will be reviewed and possibly extended for three years.

"The coming together of minds on this is going to be really exciting," says Phillips.

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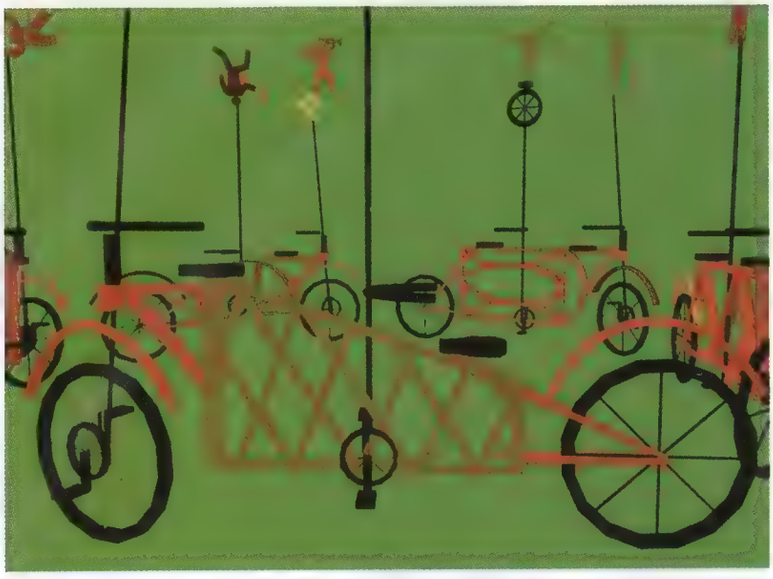
Following the Footsteps of University of Alberta Alumni



The artists' rendering of their sculpture, entitled *Recycles*.

Local artists **Elizabeth Beauchamp**, '77 BA, '83 MA, and **Lynn Malin**, '64 BA, have created *Recycles*, a playful sculpture of five stationary bicycles topped with poles and whirligigs, which will be operated by pedaling. Beauchamp and Malin were commissioned to complete the work as the winners of a competition sponsored by Edmonton's Art and Design in Public Places Program. The artists' "interactive, kinetic sculpture celebrating a lively and festive downtown" will be placed at Beaver Hills House Park, located on Jasper Avenue between 104 Street and 105 Street, and unveiled in July 2001.

REFLECTIONS

During the past year, all members of Alumni Council have worked to promote the many things that connect people to the University of Alberta, and we have struggled to understand the reasons why people don't stay connected.

I remember my thoughts upon graduation, the excitement of having completed, or better yet survived, the courses required to earn my degree. I had been very active with fraternities, both my own Theta Chi and with the Interfraternity Council. This exposed me to students from many faculties and from many different cities and countries.

Although I enjoyed my time at the University of Alberta, I was on to another chapter in my life. I thought that my involvement was finished. It wasn't until much later that I became involved with the University, and then subsequently had the honour to serve as president of its Alumni Association.

Why did it take time for me to return? Historically the connection with younger alumni has been difficult. Often they find themselves, as I did, on the brink of an exciting new career or adventure and University seems part of the past. Yet it is at this time that the University and especially alumni can play an important role. The ability to access the knowledge and experience of the alumni community is a tremendous asset for any new graduate.

To that end, the Alumni Association's online community has the potential to reach not only young alumni but students as well. The mentoring component of the online community will allow you as an alumnus to give something back. By contributing your knowledge and experience you will help to ensure the University of Alberta maintains its competitive advantage. With the quick click of a mouse you can join the community at *www.ualberta.ca/alumni*.

The greatest universities have an active and engaged alumni community and we need your help to continue the tradition of involvement at the University of Alberta.

D. Bruce Bentley, '80 BCom
Alumni Council President

SALUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

Louis Francescutti, '85 PhD, '87 MD, is a busy man who gladly fills his day with a number of jobs, quests, and volunteer responsibilities.

Francescutti is a University of Alberta professor in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. The founder of the Injury Prevention Centre at the U of A Hospital, he also remains an active medical staff member at Edmonton's Royal Alexandra Hospital, where he works in the Emergency Department.

When he is not practising medicine or teaching it, Francescutti has managed to find time to be the president of the University of Alberta Medical Alumni Association. When his two-year term ends in October he will have achieved a number of accomplishments—and have a bit more time on his hands.

One significant achievement Francescutti spearheaded was the development of the Medical Alumni Association Web site, which will be launched in the fall. Francescutti has always dreamed about establishing a place where U of A medical alumni could call their own. His thoughts were that this Web site would serve as a surrogate until an actual alumni house for the medical alumni could be built. The creation of the Web site was a big undertaking, but one that a tireless Francescutti was willing to undertake in order to help keep alumni from the Faculty of Medicine connected.

Both on and off campus, Francescutti is active in the community. A member of the University Senate and General Faculties Council, Francescutti sits on the board of St. John's Ambulance, is the president of his community's homeowners' association, and gives many talks at schools on health and injury prevention.

evergreen

Football fun at Reunion 2001

Hot-buttered popcorn, cheering fans, and a crisp fall day. You're invited to huddle with fellow alumni at this year's homecoming to catch a spirited football game against the University of Alberta's arch-rival—the University of Calgary.

Join in Reunion 2001's football fun on Saturday, 13 October to watch the Golden Bears take on the Dinos in what promises to be one of the most exciting games of the season.

This fun family event will be held at the new Foote Field, which is located two kilometres south of campus at the Edmonton Research Station, otherwise known as the University Farm. The Foote Field is the University's new athletic facility that was built for the 2001 IAAF World Championships in Athletics.

Renew a University tradition by cheering on the University of Alberta Golden Bears. Tickets cost $12.50 and include seats to the game, an invitation to a pre-game alumni tailgate party for lunch, and a cheer package. For details and to register for the game package go to the Web site *www.ualberta.ca/alumni/reunion2001*

Travel Escapades—take time to escape

The destinations for the Alumni Association's 2002 travel program have just been announced (see page 47). And among the variety of offerings—13 trips to four different continents—are two trips that are ideal for those travelers who want to do things their own way while getting to know a city or region once the crowds have left.

Known as "Escapades," these trips provide an ideal opportunity for a first-class holiday at more-affordable prices. Offered during the off-season, they are the perfect way to get away from it all and escape the winter blahs.

The Escapades feature a week-long stay at a hotel specially chosen for the quality of its amenities and service.

The participants are free to set their own itinerary: a number of optional excursions are available to choose from and a knowledgeable tour director is available daily to assist with sightseeing arrangements, dinner reservations, shopping suggestions, or any other assistance that may be required.

In early 2002, alumni travellers will have the opportunity to experience Central Europe's most favoured and interesting city on the *Prague Deluxe Escapade*, 1–8 March. Accommodation in this beautiful city of graceful spires and narrow, winding cobbled streets is at the well situated and luxurious Hotel Inter-

Old Town Square is just one of the magnificant scenes to be experienced on the Prague Deluxe Escapade, taking place in March 2002.

Continental Praha.

At the end of the year, the city that gave birth to the Renaissance is featured on the *Florence Deluxe Escapade*, 25 November–2 December. After days filled with incredible sightseeing, participants will return to the luxurious surroundings, panoramic views, and pampering service of the Grand Hotel Baglioni.

For those who don't want to wait until 2002, space is still available for the *Rome Escapade* at the exclusive Excelsior Hotel, 13–20 November 2001.

For further information about getting away to Prague, Florence, or Rome—or about any other destination in your Alumni Association's travel programs—please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (780) 492-3224 or toll-free in Canada or the United States at 1-800-661-2593.

Arts Alumni Council seeks members

All alumni from the Faculty of Arts are invited to join in an exciting new initiative—the Arts Alumni Council.

The idea for creating an alumni chapter for art graduates came about at a meeting between Arts dean Ken Norrie, and **Scott Thorkelson**, '83 BA, who serves as the Arts representative on Alumni Council.

The two wanted to provide Arts alumni with an opportunity to reconnect with their faculty, renew old acquaintances, and forge new friendships. It is anticpated that special events and activities will be planned and the Council will work with the diverse arts departments to find projects of interest to alumni from the humanities, social sciences, and fine arts.

Alumni interested in helping launch this new alumni chapter are invited to contact the Faculty of Arts at (780) 492-9134.

Welcome to Council

The Alumni Council is welcoming three new members who joined the Council this spring.

Richard Wilson,'74 BA, '75 LLB, the new Law faculty representative, is a life-long resident of Edmonton. Since he was admitted to the Alberta Bar in 1976, he has worked exclusively in civil litigation. Wilson became a partner of the law firm Parlee McLaws in the early 1980s. There he has held a variety of positions, including managing partner of the firm's Edmonton office. Outside of the office, Wilson serves on the Practice Review Committee of the Law Society of Alberta, and as an instructor for the Bar Admission Course of the Legal Education Society of Alberta, a position he has held since 1995.

Also joining the Council are ex-officio members Chris Samuels, president of the Students' Union, and Eliza von Baeyer, a member of the Graduate Students' Association executive.

Alumni Events

Unless otherwise listed, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at 492-3224 or 1-800-661-2593 (toll-free in Canada and the United States) or send an e-mail alumni@ualberta.ca.

Branches

Twin City area of Minnesota
1 July 2001
Canada Day Celebration
Contact: Dawne White at *dwhite@girlscoutscv.org*

Edmonton, Alberta
18-19 August 2001
Alumni Advantage Dragon Boat Team Races and Picnic

Toronto, Ontario
20 September 2001
Alumni reception
Royal York Hotel
Guest speaker: Dr. Michael Percy, U of A School of Business dean

Seattle, Washington
5 October 2001
All-Canadian alumni event
U of A cocktail reception before "Celebrate the Relationship" the Canadian Consulate General Gala and Dance

Chapters

School of Business Alumni Association
For more information contact the School of Business at (780) 492-4083.

10 July 2001
Annual BAA Golf Tournament
Ranch Golf and Country Club

2 October 2001
Exploring the Bottle, a wine experience

Medical Alumni Association

12 October 2001
U of A MAA Annual Dinner
Hotel MacDonald

St. Joseph's College 75th Anniversary Celebration Gala Dinner, Auction, and Dance
27 October 2001
Westin Hotel
Tickets$100 per person
For information contact the College at (780) 492-7681 or send an e-mail to *alumsjc@ualberta.ca*

Reunions

Reunion 2001 will be held from 11 to 14 October 2001. For a complete listing of classes holding reunions during the Reunion 2001 celebrations, see the back cover of this magazine.

Mexico
10 November 2001
'76 Medicine
Contact: Wayne Pisesky

Edmonton, Alberta
28 July 2001
'81 Agriculture
Contact: Anita Marr, Dominique Bizon

Edmonton, Alberta
Summer 2001
'81 Forestry
Contact: Mark Sayers

Kananaskis, Alberta
21-23 September 2001
'91 Medicine.
Contact: Richard Martin

Calling all graduates from the 1950's who attended Central Secondary School

A first-ever reunion is being planned for 29 September 2001 for all students who attended Central Secondary School, located in Hamilton, Ontario, during the 1950s. "We know our colleagues are spread far and wide and likely some of them have attended your university," writes Jack Sinclair, a class reunion organizer. To find out more information log onto *communities.mns.com/central secondaryhamilton* or drop a line to PO Box 718, Shelburne, Ontario, L0N 1S0

These guys are into it

The word 'tax' is music to their ears

By Rick Pilger

When **Bruce Johnson**, '83 BSc, first met **Chad Frederick**, '78 BCom, he tried to get rid of him. Fortunately for both of them, Frederick wasn't easily put off: had he been less persistent, Intuit Canada, which recently moved to new corporate headquarters in southeast Edmonton, might never have been.

Seated in Johnson's relatively modest office in the headquarters facility, which is anything but modest, the Intuit Canada founders recall the circumstances of their first meeting. Although both are U of A grads—Johnson in computing science, Frederick in commerce—they never met on campus: Frederick graduated just before Johnson arrived at the University.

The two met after they had both graduated, and the magnet that brought them together was music. Johnson, who was born in Canada (Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario) but grew up in England, played in a makeshift band while on campus. Because the band had trouble finding a drummer, he bought a synthesizer. And that put him on the road to developing a business, Legend Software, that provided software solutions that integrated musical synthesizers with computers for recording and editing.

Frederick, who was born in Edmonton and grew up in Sherwood Park on the city's outskirts, was an accountant by day; at night he dabbled in music. In 1984 he went to a music store looking to purchase some of Johnson's software for his Atari midi synthesizer. The store didn't have any of the software left in stock, but the clerk gave him Johnson's address.

When Frederick rang his future business partner's doorbell, he wasn't exactly greeted with open arms. "I said to him something like 'Why don't you go to a store?'" chuckles Johnson. Frederick, however, was tenacious. He got his software, and in the encounter a friendship sparked. Besides their common interest in music, both were struggling to build businesses—Johnson's software company, Frederick's accounting practice—and they were able to swap stories from the trenches.

Only in their most lavish dreams could they have imagined the business success they would later achieve. It all began with something called Wintax.

For years Johnson prepared tax returns for his clients using a clumsy spreadsheet program he had cobbled together for the purpose. "Bruce would watch me slave over this with some amusement—it was a fairly crude program," recalls Frederick.

Every once in a while the two friends talked about collaborating on a personal tax software program, but the talk came to nothing until June 1992 when Microsoft released Windows 3.0, which popularized the Windows operating environment. "Our goal was to be the first in Canada with a tax prep product in the Windows space," says Johnson. Canadians warmed to Wintax immediately, and the product's success didn't go unnoticed. Among those who took notice was a company known as Chipsoft, which produced the popular TurboTax software in the U.S. A year after introducing their product, the Wintax creators agreed to the terms of a merger with Chipsoft. However, by the time the merger was complete, Chipsoft had itself merged with Intuit the developer of the Quicken financial software.

By the time the ink had dried on the respective merger agreements, Johnson and Frederick found themselves running Intuit Canada. They adapted the Quicken software for the Canadian market, and they continued to update and improve Wintax, which in 1995 was renamed QuickTax.

In 1999 Intuit Canada acquired ownership of the personal tax software of rivals CanTax and Hometax. It also added to its stable a tax preparation program for professionals when it acquired Netfile last year.

While Intuit Canada is a wholly owned subsidiary of Intuit, which has its headquarters in Mountain View, California, there doesn't seem to be a branch-plant mentality at the Canadian company. The Canadian operation is, for the most part, self-directed, say its founders. "We run a very Canadian-focused business," says Johnson. "We are Canadians working on uniquely Canadian solutions for uniquely Canadian problems." In addition, Intuit Canada is increasingly involved internationally. It has begun developing Intuit

"We are Canadians working on uniquely Canadian solutions for uniquely Canadian problems."

Siemens/U of A Photoservices

Chad Frederick and Bruce Johnson in the lobby of their new corporate headquarters

products for the U.K. and there are now QuickTax versions for Germany, Brazil, New Zealand, South Africa, and Australia.

The company that began with Johnson and Frederick's collaboration is now Alberta's largest producer of consumer software. While it maintains small sales offices elsewhere in Canada, all of the development work and customer support takes place in Edmonton.

Three hundred people are currently employed at the company's Edmonton corporate headquarters, which—in anticipation of continued growth—was designed to accommodate half again as many. The building itself has a decidedly modern feel to it. Raised floors allow for total flexibility in creating workspaces: power, airflow and date ports can be moved or added as necessary.

Throughout the state-of-the-art facility, there is evidence of the emphasis on staff comfort. That's both a reflection of the corporate philosophy set by Johnson and Frederick and of the reality that the skills of their employees (who literally come from all over the world) are very much in demand and very transportable.

The headquarters building features no less than seven balconies where staff can gather for a breath of fresh air or one of the impromptu barbecues that have become common. There is a fully-equipped workout and fitness centre, complete with change room, lockers and showers. Other recreational areas include a games room with a big-screen TV, and an auditorium that's also used for pickup games of basketball or volleyball. The cafeteria is run by one of Edmonton's best caterers. There are even three cozy sleep rooms where staff can take a nap if they are working late or just feel the need to refresh themselves.

There is no clock punching at Intuit Canada. "Ultimately, we believe in treating everyone as adults who want to be part of a great, growing thing."

Both Frederick and Johnson seem committed to fighting any form of corporate drudgery that might accompany growth and success: they're riding a wave and they mean to enjoy it. In Johnson's words: "It's fun to be part of a company that's growing by leaps and bounds and playing such a major part in the lives of some 300 people."

The Lazy Person's Guide to Happiness: Shortcuts to a Happy and Fulfilling Life

Ernie J. Zelinski, '73 BSc(Eng), '86 MBA

"Before you climb over the side of the fence to where the grass appears greener, try watering your side first!" This is just one of many comical, inspirational, profound, and common sense reminders in this compact guidebook, which Zelinski wrote to help people live more fulfilling lives. (Visions International Publishing)

The Christian Travelers Guide to Germany

Irving Hexham and **Lothar Henry Kope,** '67 BEd

Part of a series of tour books that focuses on Christianity's enormous influence on Europe, this guidebook describes the history, literature, music, art, and architecture of Germany, including a list of the country's top 10 Christian sites, its more than 60 Christian heritage sites, and sites from the life of Martin Luther. (Zondervan Publishing House).

Country Doctor: A Memoir

Ben Dlin, '47 BSc, '49 MD

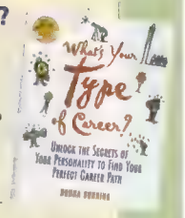
Dlin recalls his adventures as a rural doctor during the post-war period of the 1940s and early 1950s, and recreates his joys and fears of being the one person who is called upon in all kinds of emergencies, everything from tending to animals to helping families deal with life-and-death situations. (Caitlin Press)

The Ku Klux Klan in Central Alberta

William Peter Baergen, '60 BEd, '63 BA, '67 MA, '79 MEd

This book chronicles a little-known and often overlooked period of Alberta's history, that of the racial and religious bigotry fostered by the Ku Klux Klan in the province during the early 1930s. (Temeron Press)

What's Your Type of Career?



Donna Dunning, '76 BSc, '85 Dip(Ed), '91 MEd

Are you a Responder, Explorer, Expeditor, or Contributor? Dunning, an award-winning psychologist, teacher, and certified human resources professional, presents eight distinct ways of working to help readers discover their own approach to the world of work so they may achieve success. (Davies-Black Publishing)

Searching for Place: Ukrainian Displaced Persons, Canada, and the Migration of Memory

Lubomyr Luciuk, '84 PhD

In this well-documented account, using hundreds of detailed interviews and government and private archives, Luciuk traces the Ukrainian experience in Canada from the beginnings of pioneer settlement on the Prairies to the recent past, with a focus on the years after the end of the Second World War. (University of Toronto Press)

A Life Worth Living: The 9 Essentials

Barrie Sanford Greiff, '60 MD

Greiff's book shares inspirational stories of men, women, and children who have found remarkable wisdom in the course of everyday life. Sue Shellenbarger of the *Wall Street Journal* calls it, "Uplifting ... [A] thoughtful book by a pioneer." (HarperCollins Publishers)

Deficit Reduction in the Far West: The Great Experiment

edited by Paul Boothe and **Bradford Reid,** '77 MA

Featuring contributions by scholars from the "Far West", this volume offers an examination of the attempts by Alberta, British Columbia, and Saskatchewan to tackle their budget deficits, and how each approached this challenge. (University of Alberta Press)

ALSO NOTED:

Stanley Park

Timothy Taylor, '85 BA (See page 40)

classnotes

'27 Mabel Chappel, BA, for the past six years has lived in Ojai, California, only a three-minute drive from her daughter's family. Mabel's son, **John Chappel**, '55 BA, '60 MD, has retired from his position as a professor at the U of Nevada Medical School. He still works full-time and is a dedicated marathon runner. Mabel's youngest daughter, Lynn, has also retired from her high-school counselling career. On a sad note, Mabel's daughter **Sheila Chappel**, '57 BA, died of cancer two years ago. Mabel writes she is always on the go. "At 97, I am in good health except for arthritis."

Gordon Brown, '42 BA, U of A's first permanent alumni secretary, recently had his memoirs published. *Blazes Along A Diplomatic Trail* focuses on some of Gordon's 32-years spent working in the Canadian Diplomatic Services. *Blazes Along A Diplomatic Trail* tells of his time at four posts—South Africa, the Soviet Union, the Congo, and Cyprus—where situations unfolded "that commanded international attention and touched on the growing crisis of national unity in Canada." Gordon got the title for his book from the days when he worked on campus. Gordon took his first post-war job in1946-47 as secretary of the alumni association. "I took over the editorship of *New Trail* from F.M. Salter, who had called the table of contents "Blazes" for those marks along a trail. So it is with thanks to the great Shakespearean teacher of long ago—as well as the hot political crises in the four posts—that my book got its title." For information on the book visit *www.trafford.com.* Gordon now lives in Victoria.

Gordon's picture in the 1946 *Evergreen and Gold* yearbook

'49 Al Church, BSc(Ag), and his wife, Marge, both originally from Camrose, Alberta, recently celebrated their 50th anniversary at their winter home in Texas. Al has renewed his interest in barbershop singing by joining a 50-member chorus, and Marge has revived her tap-dancing skills, and with two others performs at numerous variety shows. Back in the '50s, Marge was the secretary and stenographer for Walter Dinwoodie, who at the time was the permanent secretary of the U of A Students' Union.

'58 Howard Starkman, BA, '61 LLB, **Robert Newton**, '58 BA, '61 LLB, both of Edmonton, and **Bruce Jackson**, '58 BA, '61 LLB, of Calgary, are busy organizing their 40-year class reunion. The celebration will be held in conjunction with the U of A's Reunion 2001. "We are all looking forward to meeting with classmates this fall," writes Howard.

'59 Victor Snieckus, BSc, was recently honoured with a Cope Award from the American Chemical Society and with a Heterocyclic Award from the International Society for Heterocyclic Chemistry.

'60 Norm Archer, BSc(Eng), is the first appointee to the Wayne C. Fox Chair in Business Innovation at the Michael G. DeGroote School of Business at McMaster U. Norm, a professor of management science and information systems at McMaster, is the director of the McMaster Electronic Commerce Research Centre. He and his wife, **Marybelle Archer (Purcelle)**, '60 BEd, live in Dundas, Ontario, and can be reached at *archer@mcmaster.ca.*

'61 Sylvia Birds, Dip(Nu), of Penticton, B.C., works as a nurse for an ophthalmologist in private practice. Sylvia is the director of the Penticton and District Society for Community Living, which helps the mentally and physically challenged in the community.

'62 Jim Richardson, BCom, of Fredericton, is the chair of the sociology department at the U of New Brunswick. Jim writes he had an "upbeat beginning" to the new century. In June 2000 he received a Canadian Sociology and Anthropology Association Outstanding Contribution to Canadian Sociology Award. Earlier, in February 2000, he was the recipient of a new heart as a result of a cardiac transplant at the Halifax Transplant Clinic.

'63 David Lysne, BA, '66 MA, was recently appointed an adjunct professor in the Faculty of Education at McGill. This appointment came after a 31-year career in Canada's Foreign Service. David and his wife, **Linda Lysne (Lees)**, '62 BA, live north of Kingston, Ontario.

'65 Ron Zapisocki, BEd, of Edmonton, is a new member of the board of directors at Capital City Savings.

'66 Pat Shera, BSc, of Victoria, retired in May 2000 after working for 34 years as a fisheries biologist—25 of them spent in B.C. conducting environmental impact assessments. Pat still races in his sailboat year round with **Dave Buchwald**, '66 BSc, '68 MSc, as a crew member. In 1999, these two won "Boat of the Year"—the overall trophy for best performance in sailboat racing—from the Sidney North Saanich Yacht Club, beating out 40 other boats. An avid boater since his childhood days at his parents' cottage at Lac La Nonne and his summer employment in the '60s at Alberta Fish and Game, Pat is happy to help any alumnus looking for information on cruising—power or sail. Check out the Web site that Pat has set up at *http://members.home.net/boatandbillet.*

'67 Wayne Dwernychuk, BSc, '68 MSc, originally from Smoky Lake, Alberta, is vice-president of Hatfield Consultants Ltd. in West Vancouver. HCL, an environmental consulting firm, was named the winner of the Mark-Drake Award for the year 2000. The award, presented by the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters Canada in collaboration with the Canadian International Development Agency, recognizes excellence in communicating private sector contributions to international cooperation issues. HCL received the award for their work on the residual environmental impacts of Agent Orange herbicide, which was used by the U.S. military during the Vietnam War. Wayne was the principal technical author of the company's summary reports.

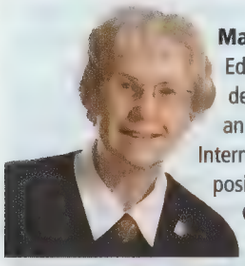
Alvin Kumlin, '70 BSc(Ag), and his wife, Ann, were recently presented with the 2001 Environmental Stewardship Award by the Alberta Cattle Commission. Presented annually, this award is given to the beef producer who "best exemplifies environmentally sustainable cattle production." Alvin and Ann, along with their two teen-aged children, manage the Lazy J Ranch, located along Jumping Pound Creek, just west of Calgary. Using the same techniques that his family has practiced for more than 50 years, Alvin works hard to protect his rangeland, keep the water supply clean, and produce healthy cattle. Some of the techniques that Alvin employs to preserve the environment include using electric fencing to manage the cattle's access and wrapping trees to prevent damage from beavers. Previous recipients of this prestigious award include **Francis Gardner** '70 BSc(Ag) and **Bernie Kotelko** '76 BSc(Ag).

Photo courtesy of *Western Producer*

'69 Ed Ashton, MSc, '73 PhD, of Grande Prairie, Alberta, who has been a psychiatric nurse for the past 12 years, is in the process of switching to work at Alberta Mental Health. His wife, Shannon, recently finished the LPN program and has also made the switch from teaching to nursing. Ed continues his watercolour paintings of Alberta's grain elevators and hopes to create a Web site so he is able to sell his works online.

'69 William Orobko, BA, '70 LLB, is pleased to announce the completion of transition and his re-immergence as Willow Cheryle Arune " the realization of a lifelong dream." Willow's final operation occurred in Montreal. Willow has been in transition for more than two years, which she says is a necessary step for those who are suffering from Gender Identity Disorder, "a birth condition not a choice." Willow makes her home in Vancouver.

'70 Cindy Skelton (Megley), BEd, of Edmonton, retired in June 2000 after a 30-year teaching career at Jasper Place High School in the business and computer department. Cindy and her husband, Ron, spent the winter in Hawaii and spring in Phoenix. Classmates can send an e-mail to them at *roncindy@yahoo.com*



Margaret-Ann Armour, '70 PhD, of Edmonton, was recently honoured by students at the U of A who recognized her with an honorary membership in the Golden Key International Society. The award recognizes her positive involvement with the students in the Chemistry Department as well as her leadership in WISEST.

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Jack Martin, BA, '72 MEd, '73 PhD, who is the Burnaby mountain endowed professor at Simon Fraser U, recently received the George Miller Award from the American Psychological Association for his "outstanding recent work in general psychology."

Carol Ross, BA, '72 MA, '77 PhD, of North Vancouver was appointed a judge of the British Columbia Supreme Court in March 2001. Carol received her law degree from the U of British Columbia, and prior to her appointment she was a partner in the Vancouver firm Hordo, Ross, and Bennett, where she was practising civil litigation.

'71 Robert Phillips, BSc(Eng), '76 LLB, of Vancouver, was recently appointed president and chief executive officer of the British Columbia Railway Company.

'72 Jim Muir, BSc(Pharm), of Wainwright, Alberta, received the 2000 Whitehall-Robins Bowl of Hygeia from the Alberta College of Pharmacists. This award was presented to Jim for his outstanding record of community achievements.

Merose Stelmaschuk, BSc(Pharm), '70 BSc, owner and pharmacist at Grandin Prescription Centre in Edmonton, was honoured at the Alberta Pharmaceutical Association's Annual General Meeting last June with a W.L. Boddy Pharmacy of the Year Award. This award recognizes a licensed Alberta pharmacy whose health professionals, by virtue of their practice, have had a positive impact on the health of the community. Merose lives in St. Albert, Alberta.

'73 Erika Foley, BEd, of Wainwright, Alberta, was elected president of the Alberta Museums Association at its annual conference last year. Erika is a retired junior-high-school teacher and past president of the Battle River Historical Society. She still keeps busy and works part-time at Portage College helping adult students with learning barriers and is also a Canadian representative for Heritage International. Classmates are invited to contact her at *erikaf@telusplanet.net.*

Mary Fairhurst, '75 PhD, of Edmonton, was designated a Fellow of the Chemical Institute of Canada for the year 2000. Mary is the analytical resource leader at Dow Chemical in Fort Saskatchewan. She also serves on the U of A Alumni Council as the Senate representative

William Keech, BSc, of Calgary, was recently named the Western Canada regional director of group insurance and pension plans by Standard Life.

Frans Slatter, BCom, of Edmonton, was appointed Justice of the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench in March. Prior to this, Frans was a partner at the Edmonton firm of McCuaig, Desrochers.

'74 Randall Soifer, BSc, '78 BSc(Eng), is a new partner at the Edmonton firm Grant Thornton LLP. Randall will develop the management consulting practice for the Central Alberta office.

Wayne Pisesky, BSc(Med), '76 MD, of Kelowna, B.C., is busy organizing his 25-year class reunion. "It will probably be the week starting 10 November 2001 in Playa Del Carmen, Mexico." For more information, classmates can e-mail Wayne at *pisesky@home.com.*

'75 Loraine Altenweg, BCom, of Edmonton, was recently elected to serve as the board secretary on the board of directors for Capital City Savings for the 2001 term.

Colleen Clarke, BA(RecAdmin), author of *Networking: How to Creatively Tap Your People Resources*, is a career consultant, corporate trainer, seminar leader and public speaker in the areas of career development, transition, and networking. Colleen, who lives in Toronto, has provided counselling and guidance to hundreds of individuals in career transition and advancement, and she is the founder of EARN—Executive Advancement Resource Network—one of Canada's

off the beaten path

How does a talented MBA graduate with an economics background and a challenging career in commercial banking make the shift to freelance writing for national magazines and penning a debut novel about the rarified culinary world of professional chefs? "With uncharacteristic abandon," says **Timothy Taylor**, '85 BA, author of the recently released *Stanley Park*.

"I've always been a big believer in planning and had always worked everything out in advance—mapped out into the future how we would save money for example—but found myself making it up on the sly when I started my freelance career," says the Journey Prize-winning writer, who walked away from four years of work at a major Canadian bank to feed his creative aspirations.

While a writing career had always been the ultimate career goal for the Vancouver-based author, a parallel interest in economics and pragmatic employment concerns led him to temporarily set aside his literary dreams.

"I didn't fall into it, I wanted to build myself a practical career for practical concerns and knew that I'd be setting aside my writing for a few years," he says.

While he liked the work he was doing well enough, it was just too all-consuming, and it didn't leave him enough time to write.

"Realizing that everything you do is worth your full attention and the years were slipping by, I needed to make the shift," says Taylor who quit his banking career in 1991.

Initially, Taylor segued into the freelance life by working consulting in fishery policy work ("public consultation work, the non-scientific stuff"). These part-time, piecework projects not only allowed him to apply the experience he'd accumulated in his studies and banking career, they gave him the desperately needed time and space to build a freelance journalism career and to work on his carefully researched prose.

Stanley Park, his well-received debut novel published by Knopf Canada, took five years of work to complete, including in-depth interviews with two professional Vancouver-area chefs—one of whom is now teaching at the prestigious Culinary Institute of America. He also spent time in the kitchen of a busy West Coast convention centre to get the veracity of kitchen life down pat.

Although Taylor is reluctant to be pinned down on things to come, one thing is certain, writing is definitely in his future.

-Gilbert Bouchard

largest self-help networking groups. For more information visit Colleen's Web site at *www.colleenclarke.com*.

Candas Jane Dorsey, BA, of Edmonton, recently won the Howard O'Hagan Award for Short Fiction at the 2001 Alberta Book Awards. Her award-winning book is entitled, *Vanilla and Other Stories*.

'77 Raymond Friedman, BEd, '87 MBA, is teaching marketing at Lethbridge Community College, and **Christa Friedman,** '88 LLM, is busy at home with their three children (Sara, Annika, and Timo) and making wonderful custom quilts for sale. Raymond writes, "After a lifetime in Edmonton, Lethbridge is an interesting change."

'78 Vicki Demkiw, BPE, '89 Dip(Ed), '97 BSc(PT), is a recent recipient of a U of Calgary Students' Union Award. She won a gold medal for excellence in curricular and non-curricular activities. Vicki is currently employed as a physiotherapist at Calgary's Foothills Hospital. In her spare time, she enjoys travelling, golfing, and downhill skiing.

Larry Derkach, BSc, recently became executive director of Edmonton's Jewish Family Services, an independently constituted, non-profit social service agency that is closely affiliated with the Jewish community, but also serves the greater community. Larry is the first non-Jewish executive director of any Canadian Jewish Family Services organization (of which there are about 10). He was attracted by the organization's vision statement, "Tikun Olam," a Hebrew phrase connoting a responsibility to help heal and restore the world, and a community of people deeply committed to living out that responsibility. Jewish Family Services is analogous to Edmonton's Bissell Centre, where Larry was the executive director for 15 years before leaving in 1999.

'79 Arunkumar Abraham, BA, '90 Cert(Arts), is the director of software and technical services for Eutech Cybernetics, a Singapore-based software company. Arunkumar works at the company's Silicon Valley location in California.

Kent Spackman, MD, '77 BMS, associate professor of pathology at Oregon Health Sciences U, received the 2000 Frank W. Hartman, MD, Memorial Award in October 2000. The award, named in honour of the first president of the College of American Pathologists, was presented to Kent and a colleague for their outstanding efforts, achievement, leadership, and commitment in promoting the College's Systemized Nomenclature of Medicine, known by the acronym SNOMED. Kent is a staff clinical pathologist at the OHSU Hospital and director of OHSU's post-doctoral medical informatics training program. He has served as the chair of the SNOMED International Editorial Board since 1998 and as SNOMED International's scientific director since 1997.

'80 Travis Coulter, BSc(Eng), has been appointed vice-president, project development, for Kraft Construction Company in Naples, Florida.

Robert Porkka, BEd, returned to Red Deer in September 2000 to become the vice-principal of Lindsay Thurber High School. Prior to this, Robert was a teacher for two years working with the Department of National Defence and NATO at AFNORTH International School in Brunssom, Netherlands. AFNORTH International School was founded in 1967 and provides education for children of Allied Forces Northern Europe and other NATO personnel.

'81 Peter Galloway, BA, is the newly elected vice-chair of Capital City Saving's board of directors for the 2001 term.

'87 **Ruth Thorkelson**, BA, went on to complete a BA in Philosophy at McGill after graduating from the U of A. Ruth started working for Minister of Finance Paul Martin as a special assistant in 1994, and is now his executive assistant. Her duties include managing his office, dealing with policy issues related to finance, and managing communication around producing a federal budget. Ruth writes, "While my job has consumed my waking—and sleeping—hours, and I have little time for the volunteer work I used to do, I get through the more tedious moments by taking my dog, Spencer, to work. He brings a lot of joy to the office.

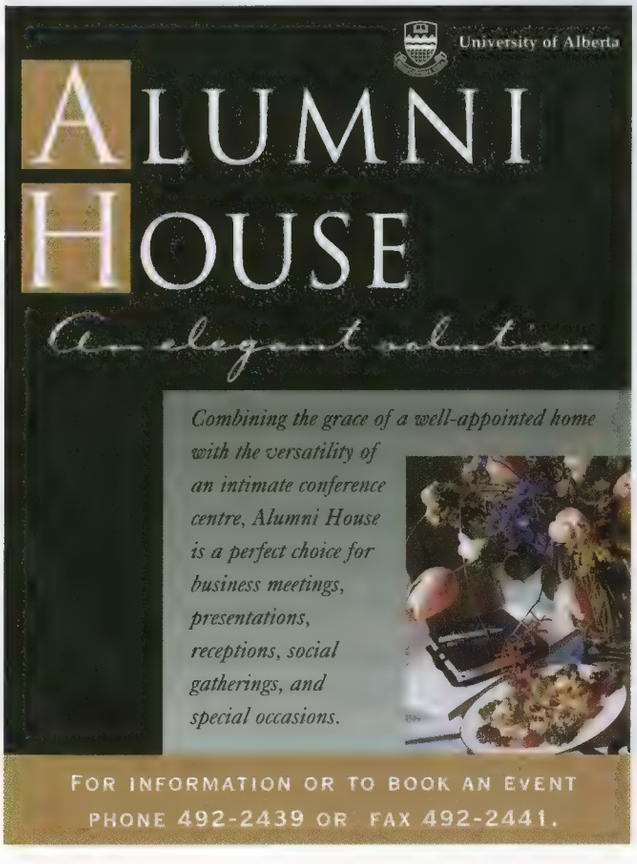
Spencer behind the Minister's desk

Marion Riise, BA, who worked for 16 years in municipal administration, now operates A Way With Words, a writing, editing, and desktop publishing business in Forestburg, Alberta. Her husband, **Ken Riise**, '80 BEd, is the vice-principal at Forestburg School and a member of the math lead team for the Battle River Regional Division. Last year, Ken received his master's degree in education from the U of Calgary.

Mark Semchuk, BSc(Eng), is planning a 20-year reunion for the chemical engineering class of 1981 in Calgary on the weekend of 14 September. For details contact Mark at (403) 245-7639.

'82 Ian Kermack, 'BSc(Eng), '86 MSc was recently appointed vice-president of the Northern Alberta region for Stuart Olson Construction. Ian will be based in Edmonton and will be responsible for Stuart Olson's Northern Alberta operations.

'83 Tammy Grant (Hutzcal), BSc(Pharm), of Edmonton, and her husband, Gerry, welcomed their second child, a brother for Kelsey, in August 2000. Tammy is enjoying her time at home with her children, and she continues to work at Safeway as a pharmacist on a part-time basis.



Norman Nendsa, BSc, is finishing up the first year of the Master of Education program at the U of Calgary. "I will be returning to Yellowknife for the summer."

Karl Walters, BSc, '86 BSc(Forest), has been pursuing his doctorate in forest management at NC State U, and is getting ready to graduate. Karl recently accepted a position with the Forest Technology Group in Summerville, South Carolina, as a harvest-scheduling specialist. "The Charleston area is great with lots to see and do—and no, I really don't miss the Canadian winters much."

'84 Janet Davidson, MHSA, was appointed president and chief executive officer of the Toronto East General Hospital. She assumed the position on 1 June 2001. Janet has more than 25 years of health care management experience in the voluntary, hospital, and government sectors in both Alberta and Ontario.

'85 Mark Jones, BCom, works with Bain & Company in Dallas, Texas, and was elected to partnership in 1996. Mark is married and has six children. His hobbies are private investing and Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Patricia Paone, BA, '88 BSc(Nu), '94 MNu, has been working as the manager of occupational health services at JDS Uniphase (Ottawa) since April 2000, and is enjoying travelling to other sites around the world to visit and exchange ideas about her profession. "Occupational health nursing is the way to go." In her spare time, Patricia is having fun enjoying all the recreational opportunities around the nation's capital. Classmates can e-mail her at *patricia.paone@ca.jdsunph.com*.

'86 Dawn Thompson, BEd, recently moved to Calgary with her fiancé, who works for WestJet. Dawn is a teacher for the Rocky View School Division.

Grant Borbridge, BA, completed his MBA at Penn State U in May 2000. Grant and his spouse, Tanis, now live in New York, where Grant is working for an investment bank.

'88 Anthony Bright, BSc, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-president, private wealth management, at Greystone Managed Investments. Previously, Anthony was in the asset management and investment counselling units at a Canadian chartered bank and a major Canadian trust company.

Stephen Swalsky, BA, '89 Cert(Arts), '93 LLB, is living in the Big Apple—New York—where he works for VH1 in its legal department dealing with the rights for music, film, and photos for VH1's special event programming. "Life is good!"

Babak

Brett Gladman, '88 BSc, and his international observing partners at the Nice Observatory, located in France, have discovered two more moons orbiting Saturn. Gladman and J.J. Kavelaars spotted one of the new finds (S/2000 S 12, which measures 5 kilometres across) on 23 September 2000 using the 3.6-metre Canada-France-Hawaii telescope on Mauna Kea. Saturn now has 30 known moons. Twelve of these were found by Gladman and his team, and they appear to fall into three groupings: those that travel in the same direction that Saturn rotates; those that have orbital inclinations that cluster near 35 and 48 degrees; and those that travel in the reverse direction of Saturn. "The situation of Saturn thus seems to resemble that of Jupiter, which also has one prograde and one retrograde cluster," notes Gladman.

The setting is the Stratford Festival of Canada—home of one of the world's top repertory theatre companies. And part of the action are seven University of Alberta alumni who are members of the cast and crew of this leading Canadian cultural institution.

In the Acting Company:

Aaron Franks, '96 BFA(Drama)
Originally from Prince Edward Island, Aaron completed the Stratford Festival Conservatory of Classical Theatre Training last year. In his second season, he plays Demetrius in *Titus Andronicus*, Medvedenko in *The Seagull* and is currently appearing in *The Sound of Music*. He also participated in The King Lear Project CD-ROM with Fiona Shaw for the BBC and Britain's Open University.

Haysam Kadri, '99 BFA(Drama)
Haysam is "thrilled" to be returning to the Stratford stage for a second year. A member of the Festival Conservatory for Classical Theatre Training, Haysam appeared in *Hamlet*, *The Three Musketeers* and *Titus Andronicus*. Over the summer until November, Haysam plays the Duke of York and Earl of Cambridge in *Henry V* and also appears in *Henry IV, Part 1 and Falstaff (Henry IV, Part 2)*.

Brad Rudy, '82 BFA
Brad is a veteran of the Stratford stage—celebrating his 15th season—and has appeared in more than 40 musical and classical productions. On stage, he can be seen playing Exeter in *Henry V*, Douglas in *Henry IV, Part 1* and Mowbray in *Falstaff (Henry IV, Part 2)*. Brad has also done stunt work in television episodes of *Kung Fu*, *Maniac Mansion*, *Beyond Reality* and, most recently, *Prince Charming* with Martin Short.

Rami Posner, '99 BFA(Drama)
Rami is returning to the Stratford Festival for another season, where he is acting as Morocco/Magnifico in *The Merchant of Venice* and Scroop/Bates in *Henry V*. In addition to a list of theatre credits, Rami has also appeared on television, including *The Adventures of Shirley Holmes* (YTV), *The Hooplife* (Showtime) and in the feature films *Scalpers*, *The Exiles*, and *Sordid Affair*.

Tracy Thomas, '00 BFA(Drama)
Born and raised in Edmonton, Tracy is making her Stratford debut. She appears in *Twelfth Night* and *Henry V* and will be seen in *The Seagull*, which opens in mid-August. Tracy's Toronto credits include *The Big Picture* for Brookstone Performing Arts. In Edmonton, she was seen playing Maria in *West Side Story* and Anne in *Anne of Green Gables*. Tracy also played Pepper in the weekly live improvised soap opera *Die Nasty!* (Union Theatre).

In the Design Department

April Viczko, '98 BFA(Drama)
April is the assistant costume designer for *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and the assistant costume and set designer for *Tempest-Tost*.

Doug Paraschuk, '87 MFA
Doug is a design coordinator for the Festival. During his 13 years at Stratford, Doug has provided his design, costume, and lighting talents to many productions. This season he is the set designer for *As You Like It* and *Patience*. In addition to his work at Stratford, Doug has done design for the Citadel Theatre, National Arts Centre, and the Atlantic Theatre Festival. Doug was also the art director for Loreena McKennitt's Mummers' Dance video. And designed the Shakespeare statue in this picture. It was unveiled in 1999 at the launch of the Festival's "For All Time" campaign.

Beacon Herald Photography

Alberta alumni at Stratford (clockwise from top centre, under Shakespeare's book): Doug Paraschuk, April Viczko, Rami Posner, Brad Rudy (wearing glasses), Tracy Thomas, Haysam Kadri (black shirt), and Aaron Franks

1. **Patty Rooks**,'96 BA, Joseph Rooks, and **Anthony Faust**, '99 PhD, catch up at a Medicine Hat Alumni Reception.

2. **Carla Corbett**, '94 BA, **Bobbi Wiese**, '94 BEd, **Shona Schleppe**, '86 BEd, '93 MA, and **Priti Laderoute**, '92 BA, are having fun at a pizza reception held after taking in a U of A Pandas' basketball game in early March.

3. **Sheila Stosky**, '99 BA, and **Jennifer Lawton-Godziuk**, 94 BEd, at an alumni event in Bonnyville held 7 April.

4. Twelve classmates from the rehab medicine class of 1970 met in Edmonton for a reunion luncheon in September 2000.

5. Classmates enjoy an alumni get-together in Lethbridge held in March.

6. Alumni squeeze into the photo that was taken at an event held at the Jasper Park Lodge in March.

7. They're showing their U of A alumni pride at a dinner held in the Peace Region.

The U of A Press is on a winning streak

Award ceremonies. Love them or hate them, if you're nominated, you have to attend. This year, the University of Alberta Press loves them, picking up two awards in different categories at the Writers' Guild of Alberta and the Book Publishers' Association of Alberta Book Awards Gala in early May.

The Holocaust's Ghost: Writings on Art, Politics, Law and Education won the Best Scholarly Award—the eighth straight year the U of A Press has won in this category. *The Holocaust's Ghost* project arose from a conference hosted at the U of A in 1997. "It was a multidisciplinary look at the impact of the Holocaust, including a display of art with numerous pieces by Sid Chafetz," said Linda Cameron, director of the U of A Press.

Chafetz is a world-renowned printmaker who produced a set of 42 prints, which were reproduced in the book. "These artworks are designed to educate, provoke discussion and encourage study," said Bernard Schwartz, U of A professor emeritus of elementary education who co-edited the book with Ted DeCoste, an associate dean in the University's Faculty of Law.

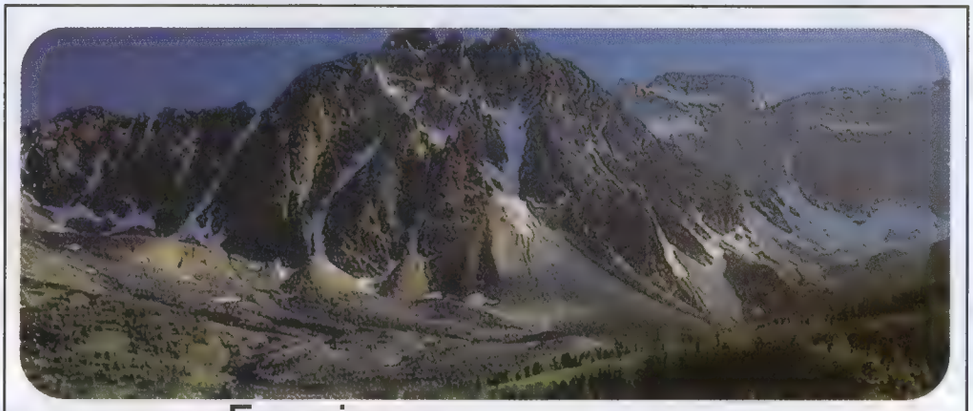
Designer **Alan Brownoff**, '79 BFA, won Best Book Design for *Apostrophes 1V: Speaking you is holiness*, by E.D. Blodgett, U of A professor emeritus in the English department. The cover image, entitled Yellow to Red Orange, is by artist and University art and design professor **John Freeman**, '72 MVA. Judges said that, in choosing this year's recipient, "jurors agreed that this book is precious. Care was put into its production. The book's intimate format and square shape feels lovely in your hand."

And the winning continues. At the end of May, the U of A Press found out that *Apostrophes 1V: Speaking you is holiness* and *The Words of My Roaring*, by **Robert Kroetsch**, '48 BA, '97 DLitt(Honorary), both designed by Brownoff, had received honourable mentions at the Alcuin Society Awards for Excellence in Book Design in Canada.

"The Press's strengths in the scholarly publishing and design categories show that the University of Alberta Press is indisputably recognized as one of the best scholarly publishers in Canada, I think," said the new U of A Press director Linda Cameron.

But Cameron added that the U of A Press won't rest on its laurels. "The University of Alberta Press is set for a marvelous fall season with an excellent list of new books. My thanks go to our committed staff, our tremendous authors, our energetic press committee, and the University for its ongoing support."

— David Beharry and Cathie Crooks



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'91 Keith Bonin, BCom, is the senior manager of group reporting and analysis for Fidelity Investments in the United Kingdom.

Theressa Kunyk, BCom, of Edmonton, recently returned to work as an independent contractor for Stout & Company Chartered Accountants after a nine-month maternity leave. Theressa's son was born in Los Angeles where she worked for a year. She also reports that she is newly divorced.

'92 Lisa Austin, MA, '85 BA, of Edmonton, has been working as a public relations consultant since getting her graduate degree at the U of A. She also spent some time in the mid-1990's doing stand-up comedy at such places as Yuk Yuk's, Women in Comedy, and the Arden Theatre. She now offers Humour in the Workplace workshops for businesses. "The U of A has a special place in my heart."

Steve Connors, LLB, '89 BA, recently joined the partnership of the Edmonton law firm Brownlee Fryett.

Jennifer Kiss, BSc(MLSS), of Tucson, Arizona, works as an implementation manager for a medical software firm. She is married with two children.

Daniel Peskett, LLB, '88 BSc, of Edmonton joined the partnership of the Edmonton law firm Brownlee Fryett in January 2001.

'93 Sabina Alm (Lokanc), BSc(HEc), and Tony Alm, '95 BSc(Pharm), own and operate a Shoppers Drug Mart in Lethbridge, Alberta. Sabina is currently attending the U of Lethbridge, where she is working toward her CA designation.

Suzette Cooke, MSc, completed her pediatric residency training in June 2000. Three months later, Suzette had a baby, Katie Rose, a sister for Noah, who is three. Suzette lives with her family in Calgary, where she works as a general pediatrician.

Jeffrey Kemps, MSc, '91 BSc(Eng), has joined the Edmonton firm of Hemisphere Engineering Incorporated as a senior mechanical engineer.

Melanie Pehowich (Robertson), BSc(Nu), moved to Kamloops in 1993. Melanie went on to receive a

diploma in ICU training from BCIT the following year. She currently works at Kamloops' Royal Inland Hospital. Melanie met her husband, David, while she was working and hiking at Lake O'Hara Lodge in Yoho National Park. Melanie and David enjoy spending their free time skiing, hiking, rock climbing, mountain biking, and playing with their golden retriever, Aussie.

Joseph Rosselli, LLB, '88 BSc(Eng), of Edmonton, recently joined the partnership at Fraser Milner Casgrain. Joe practises in civil litigation and provides advice on intellectual property protection and enforcement.

'94 Samir Kayande, BSc(Eng), after five years doing process design in Calgary, moved to Pittsburgh last fall to do an MBA at Carnegie Mellon U. Samir has just finished his first year, and is now interning at a small, venture backed, startup company called Quantapoint, which makes 3D cameras. "Pittsburgh is probably not a hot destination for anyone (kinda like Edmonton, I suppose), but if anyone is cruising through the Midwest U.S. drop me a line at *s_kayande@yahoo.ca*."

off the beaten path

Christine Nordhagen-Vierling, '94 BEd, owes a lot to good timing and natural ability. But while these attributes were enough to get her wrestling career started, hard work and determination are responsible for the 29-year-old's five world championship titles.

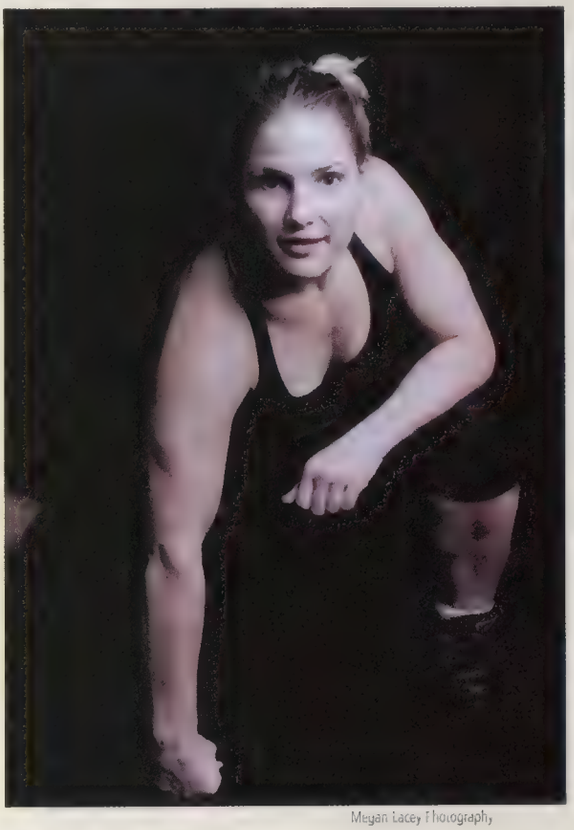
The good timing was evident in 1991 when she decided to take a wrestling course as part of her education degree at the U of A. At that time, Nordhagen-Vierling's wrestling experience was limited to the usual sibling rivalries one experiences growing up. However, the girl from Valhalla Centre, a small community near Grande Prairie, Alberta, proved to be a fast learner.

"I was the only girl in the class and when it ended, the varsity coach asked me if I wanted to join the team. I had done very well and it was the first year they were including a women's division at the national championships." She won at those first championships in 1992 but says the victory "doesn't really count"—she was the only competitor in her weight class.

That has all changed with the growing popularity and status of women's wrestling. "Now it's wrestling, whereas that first year we didn't know what we were doing. It's like any sport, it takes time to become an expert at it," Nordhagen-Vierling notes. "As the years went on, more and more girls started competing so it has become a lot more competitive."

In those early years, the women were also forced to grapple with some established attitudes in the male-dominated sport. Nordhagen-Vierling recalls attending meetings with coaches who were reluctant to include women on their teams. Although she says those attitudes are largely a thing of the past, Nordhagen-Vierling is disappointed that women's wrestling has yet to be included in major international competitions like the Olympics and Pan American Games.

She attended the Pan Am Games in Winnipeg in 1999 where her husband Leigh wrestled for Canada. The experience made Nordhagen- Vierling realize how much she and other women wrestlers were missing. "I remember watching the [opening] ceremonies and I cried," she recalls. "It was so wonderful. It was an amazing feeling to be there and I just wish I could have been a part of it."



Megan Lacey Photography

With women's wrestling being considered for the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Nordhagen-Vierling may get her chance, but she has a few more immediate challenges. She is currently preparing for the Canada Cup tournament to be held in Calgary at the end of June and the world championships in September. Her training schedule includes strength and cardiovascular conditioning, as well as two hours of wrestling, five days a week.

For the past five years, Nordhagen-Vierling has juggled her training with her duties as a math and dance teacher at Calgary's Ernest Manning High School. She also helps coach the school's wrestling team, and this involvement provides her with a steady supply of wrestling partners.

"An ideal training partner for a high-level female wrestler is a good high-school boy," Nordhagen-Vierling explains. "That's a good match for me because they're stronger, but I know more technique than they do, so I can still take them down."

At practice Nordhagen-Vierling says she is just another one of the athletes and she has no problem leaving the gym behind when she is in the classroom. "In school, I'm a teacher. It's not like I can put a choke hold on someone if they're not doing their work," she says with a laugh. *-Bruce Weir*

IN MEMORIAM

The Alumni Association notes with sorrow the passing of the following graduates:

'27 Kenneth Ewart Pratt, BA, of Toronto in February '01

'28 Bessie Bowser, BCom, of Edmonton in April '01

'29 George Sydney Field, BSc(Eng), '30 MSc, '37 PhD, of Bradenton, Flordia, in December '00

'31 Dolena Hazel Chittick, Dip(Nu), of Surrey, BC in April '01

Arthur Allen BA, '37 MA, of Comox, BC in February '01

'32 William Sereda, BSc(Pharm), of Edmonton in April '01

Gordon C. Tollington BSc(Eng), of Peterborough, Ontario, in March '01

Helen Kathleen Stewart (Craig), LLB, of Vermilion, Alberta, in February '01

'33 Harry Theodore Sparby, BSc, '39 MA, of Edmonton in April '01

'34 John Ross Kelly, BA, '38 MD, of Edmonton in May '01

Bernard Baruch Moscovich, MD, of Richmond, B.C., in February '01

'36 Margaret Jean Charlesworth (Thomson), BA, of Edmonton in January '01

William Gordon Hay, BA, '44 MA, of Camrose, Alberta, in April '01

'37 Mervyn James Huston, BSc(Pharm), '41 MSc, '88 DSc(Hon), of Edmonton in March '01

William Robert B. Wilson, DDS, of Edmonton in December '00

Louise Love, BA, of Calgary in April '01

'39 Robert Donald Livingstone, BSc(Eng), of Lethbridge in March '01

Dyson Rose, BSc, '41 MSc, of Alcove, Quebec, in February '01

Edna Alicia Milton, BSc(HEc), '40 Dip(Ed), of Victoria in January '01

'41 Ruth T. Doxey (Tanner), BSc(HEc), of Cardston, Alberta, in April '01

Margaret Elizabeth Howard, BSc(HEc), of Calgary in April '01

'42 Katherine Rogers (Huculak), BSc(HEc), of Scarborough, Ontario, in February '01

'43 Elizabeth Hilda Hains (Sturgeon), Dip(Nu), '44 BSc(Nu), of Lamont, Alberta, in May '01

Joseph Francis Swan, BEd, '61 MEd, of Sherwood Park, Alberta, in April '01

James Alfred McNally, BSc, '50 MD, of Lethbridge in February '01

'45 Joseph Harvey Shoctor, BA, '46 LLB, '81 LLD, of Edmonton in April '01

Lorraine F. McInnis, Dip(PHNu), of Calgary in May '01

'47 Aileen Boyle, Dip(Nu), of Calgary in March '01

Robb Whitfield Wilson, BEd, '49 MEd, of Burnaby, BC, in March '01

'48 Helen Theresa Hillary, BSc(Pharm), of Edmonton in April '01

Audrey May Dougherty (McDonough), BSc, of Edmonton in May '01

John Bradford Taylor, BEd, of Edmonton in February '01

Walter Chorny, BSc(Pharm), of Edmonton in November '00

'49 Clare Frank Amies, BSc(Eng), of Victoria in April '01

Norman Sheppard Trouth, BSc(Eng), of Calgary in April '01

Andrew C. Thompson, BSc, '52 DDS, of North Vancouver in March '01

Charles Edward Lilly, BSc(Ag), '53 MSc, of Lethbridge in March '01

Mary Persis Craig (Field), BA, of Edmonton in May '01

William George Nichols, BCom, of Calgary in February '01

John Fitzpatrick Jr., BCom, of Calgary in February '01

Murray Thorold Keam, BCom, of Ottawa in February '01

'50 Michael Brien O 'Byrne, BA, '41 LLB, of Victoria in April '01

Norman William Bunn, BSc(Eng), of Vancouver in February '01

Roberta Margaret Berry, BCom, of Calgary in April '01

Margaret H. Wilson, BEd, of Reston, Manitoba, in January '01

'51 James Stewart Kennedy, BSc(Eng), '53 MSc, of Edmonton in April '01

Jean Elizabeth Smart (Brickman), BSc(Nu), of Victoria in January '01

Donald Charles Sutherland, BSc(Pharm), of Victoria in February '01

'52 Ronald Byron MacLean, BSc(Pharm), of Sooke, B.C., in February '01

'53 Glen Albert Jones, BSc(Eng), of Calgary in February '01

Dale Mcleod Simmons, BSc(Eng), of Calgary in May '01

'54 Gordon Philip Holgate, BSc, of Lethbridge in March '01

'55 James Francis Hanlan, BSc, '57 MSc, of Kingston, Ontario, in August '00

Kenneth Douglas Gordon, BCom, '56 BEd, of Calgary in April '01

Vincent Martin Dantzer, LLB, of Vernon, BC, in March '01

'56 Robert Harvie Allan, BA, '57 LLB, of Regina in February '01

'57 Lorne Colville Good, BA, '62 BEd, of Edmonton in March '01

'58 Edmund J. Bazant, Dip(Ed), of Calgary in March '01

Natalka Horeczko (Krynen), BSc, '62 MD, of Edmonton in April '01

Marshal Elias Babiuk, MD, of Edmonton in February '01

Alec Saruk, BA, '66 MEd, of Lamont, Alberta in March '01

'59 Michael Mazeppa, BEd, of Edmonton in March '01

Lewis C. Turley, BEd, of Calgary in March '01

Donald Wilson Knowles, BA, '61 BEd, '64 MEd, '68 PhD, of Victoria in March '01

Christina Ena Hawken, BEd, of Edmonton in February '01

'60 Clarence C. A. Truckey, BEd, of Westlock, Alberta, in April '01

Derrel Everett Hudson, BEd, '66 MEd, of Edmonton in April '01

Enid Jean Allan, BEd, of Qualicum Beach, BC, in February '01

'61 Robert James Walker, BSc, of Calgary in April '01

Gordon Michael Gabert, BSc, '68 MSc, of Edmonton in March '01

Hannah Genevieve Weinmayr (Bradley), BEd, of Calgary in May '01

'62 Robert Thomas Makar, BSc, '66 MD, of Palestine, Texas, in April '01

Alexander Bernard Nimco, BEd, of Edmonton in April '01

'63 Frank Hubert Mathew, BEd, of Edmonton in April '01

Marguerit Isabella Samuel, BEd, of Edmonton in February '01

'64 Helen Marie O 'Neill (Korzan), Dip(PHNu), '73 BSc(Nu), of Edmonton in February '01

Marilyn Anne McClung (Cameron), BA, of Edmonton in February '01

Norma Jean Weisenburger, Dip(Nu), '72 Dip(PHNu), of Red Deer in January '01

'65 Josephine Lesoway, BEd, of Edmonton in January '01

Anne Alvern Spears (Shanks), BEd, of Canmore, Alberta, in March '01

'66 Wagner Edmund Saende, BEd, of Ribstone, Alberta, in February '01

'67 Paul Hartman, BEd, '79 MEd, of Edmonton in February '01

'68 Kathleen Renwick Ritchie, BA, of Edmonton in March '01

Ernest N. Wyatt, BEd, of Edmonton in February '01

'69 Susan R. Neimann, Dip(Nu), '70 BSc(Nu), of Cardston, Alberta, in July '00

Ira Keith Mann, BEd, of Red Deer in May '01

'71 Andrew Raymond Jordheim, BEd, of Sherwood Park, Alberta, in February '01

'72 Marion Estelle Pourbaix, BEd, of Calgary in April '01

Andree Mary Almeida BA, '77 BEd, '80 MEd, '87 BSc(Nu), of Edmonton in May '01

'73 Murdo MacFarlane, BEd, of St. Albert, Alberta, in January '01

Lily Taylor, BEd, of Edmonton in March '01

'74 Jeffery R. Peckham, BA, of Medicine Hat, Alberta, in April '01

'75 Myrtle Catherine Peers, BEd, '78 BA, of Edmonton in February '01

'76 Lester R. Olson, BSc(Eng), of Antigonish, Nova Scotia, in February '01

Vladimir Nicolaus Mackiw, DSc(Hon), of Etobicoke, Ontario, in January '01

'77 Eva Marie C. Kaminski, BA, '80 LLB, of Toronto, Ontario, in February '01

'79 Maurice L. Van Vliet, LLD(Hon), of Victoria in April '01

Mary Kathleen Kerr (Webb), BEd, of Calgary in January '01

Alan Don Shapiro, MEd, '84 PhD, of Custer, Washington, in March '00

Judith Ann Landers, BEd, of Stony Plain, Alberta, in February '01

'80 Lynn Margaret Ostafichuk, BA, of Edmonton in April '01

Margaret Anne Hooper (Foster), BA, of Sherwood Park, Alberta, in May '01

'81 Roman Skierkowsk, BA, of Edmonton in May '01

'83 Irene Gladys Garth, BEd, of Hunter River, Prince Edward Island in April '01

'84 Akinwumi Tony Balogun, BA, of Edmonton in March '01

'90 Ilan Natan Magat, MA, '95 PhD, of Haifa, Israel in February '01

'91 P. Andrew Funston, BSc(Eng), of Edmonton in March '01

'92 Jamie Lizette Albrecht, BA, of Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, in April '01

'94 Raymond Gilbert Wilton, PhD, of Winnipeg in April '01

'95 Monica Agatha Halstead, Dip(Ed), of Edmonton in March '01

'00 Jamie William McKay, LLB, of Edmonton in May '01

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Price: from $3,895 (including airfare from Calgary)

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'95 Clinton Baker, BSc, and **Lisa Baker**, '96 BEd, are living in Surrey, B.C. and report they are having lots of fun. Clinton writes, "We're both working and no kids in the picture yet.

Kim Campbell, BA, is living in Ottawa, where she is working for PricewaterhouseCoopers BPO, onsite at Nortel Networks doing workflow process automation. She invites classmates to contact her at *kim.campbell@techie.com*.

Ross Lehmann, BSc(Eng), and **Christine Cowie Lehmann**, '95 BSc(OT), were married in 1996 and moved to Calgary the next year. Ross has worked in the electrical engineering field since graduation. Currently he works for the multinational industrial engineering firm AMEC Inc. He invites alumni to "see what AMEC does at *www.amec.com!*" Classmates can contact Ross via e-mail at *rcowielehmann@home.com*

Michael Weisbart, BA, has spent the past five years teaching and studying in Korea. He is currently working on his master's degree on the West Coast at UBC. He writes, "Anyounghaseyo! Drop me a line."

Robert Wojtas, BSc(Pharm), '91 BSc, writes he can't believe it's been six years since his U of A graduation. Robert recently accepted a pharmacy manager position with Sprague Drug in Petrolia, Ontario. "Continue to enjoy working in my chosen profession." This summer Robert and his wife, Catriona, are looking forward to their son's fourth birthday and a holiday in Sooke, B.C.

'96 Jamie King, BA, '98 BCom, has been working as a commercial banking analyst with the TD Bank at Edmonton Centre for the past three years.

'98 R. Grant Bennett, MBA, of Edmonton, was recently appointed vice-president of community banking by the Bank of Montreal. Grant, who joined the bank in 1985, held the position of vice-president community banking for Alberta North, South, Central, and Northwest Territories prior to his new position.

Janell Koch, LLB, '93 BA, recently joined the Edmonton law firm of

Earl Shortt, '98 BEd, and his computer-savvy know-how made it onto Apple Canada's Web site. Earl is a computer/ICT teacher at Ermineskin Junior-Senior High School located on the Hobbema Four Nations Reserve in Alberta. The school is taking an innovative approach to teaching—it is integrating technology and the Cree language and culture with the required standard curriculum. "I don't teach them technology," says Earl. "I teach them the curriculum using techology." Earl says he tried to make the technology invisible. By using certain programs to complete a lesson, "students soon realize that they've picked up computer skills which they can apply to their other projects," he explains. As a teacher at the school, Earl says this approach lets him use his imagination and his creativity.

"Wonder whatever happened to Bob?"

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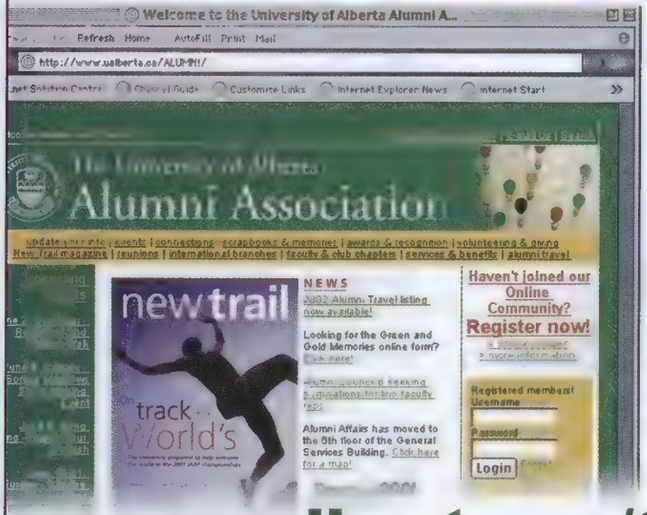

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Fraser Milner Casgrain, where she will provide advice on matters in bankruptcy, insolvency, and receiverships.

Nicole Letawsky, BCom, recently completed her MA in higher education and student affairs and will be joining the Ivy League as the assistant dean of fraternity and sorority affairs at Cornell U in Ithaca, New York.

Heather Malcolm, BSc(MedLabSci), recently accepted a position in transfusion medicine at the King Fahad National Guard Hospital in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Heather left at the end of May 2001 and is looking forward to her new adventure and working with people from all over the world. "Hopefully, I'll be able to fit some travelling into my busy schedule."

Sean Rourke, BCom, works for Nesbitt Burns in Edmonton.

'00 Michelle Squire, BEd, just wanted to let all her long-lost education buddies know that she has accepted a job teaching English in Seoul, Korea, at a foreign language institute starting in May 2001

Paula Klassen, '99 BEd, is teaching in Rwanda, a small francophone country in Central Africa. Paula, who graduated from the U of A's Faculté Saint-Jean, is working with local Rwandan teachers at a teacher training college, where she shares the skills that she learned while working towards her degree. "Together, we are trying to rebuild a shattered education system that is a result of the 1994 genocide which killed just under one million people, many of whom were teachers," writes Paula. "Without access to books and other resources I often have to rely on my experiences at the Faculté Saint-Jean when I prepare my lessons."

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Abundance of good attitude

Bruce Bentley keeps focused on the positives

By Zanne Cameron

Siemens/U of A Photoservices

ABOUT BRUCE BENTLEY

Favourite ways to unwind: "Spending time with my family and believe it or not—golfing. Reading the paper on a weekend morning armed only with a pot of coffee. Mindless TV at about 10 p.m."

Recent movie he's liked: *Legend of Bagger Vance.* "It's a good story about not giving up and getting into the zone."

Favourite food at home: "Something barbecued."

Favourite sport to watch: 'It's a toss up between football and hockey."

Favourite sport to play "Skiing is probably number one—standing at the top of Marmot looking out on the world on a sunny day."

Things are good right now for **Bruce Bentley**, '80 BCom. He's got a great job as president of Maclab Enterprises, a great office on the top floor of a towering 34-storey high-rise with a panoramic view of Edmonton's river valley, and he's about to begin his second term as president of the U of A Alumni Association. Knock on wood, he's healthy, his family is well and, judging from the breadth of the grin that frequently lights up his face, his 30-plus golf handicap doesn't bother him *that* much. Bentley's easygoing demeanor is one facet of an abundance of good attitude. "There are people out there with real problems, trying to deal with things that are out of their control—things that they can't affect. If we're healthy and everything is going relatively well, we should count our blessings. It's important to focus on the positives," says Bentley.

"You can always make things better by going forward."

No regrets

That said, he's not a complete stranger to adversity. The real estate firm he worked for in Ontario went bankrupt, but Bentley picked himself up, and after some phone calls and a timely meeting in the Calgary airport, he eventually wound up back in Edmonton working for Maclab, a real estate development firm whose widespread holdings include hotels in Edmonton and Jasper. Bentley has no regrets about the rocky side of his experience down east. "I don't believe in regrets. You can always make things better going forward. To me it's really futile to worry about something that happened a year ago or a week ago or 20 minutes ago." With that attitude, Bentley, who was born and raised in Edmonton, feels that his time in Ontario was a gift. "It really opened my eyes that this is a terrific country, full of terrific people." And, for Bentley, people—his family and his community—are what it's all about. "Very little is about me. It's about us—all of us. It's kind of a narrow focus to be worried about how things are working out for Bruce Bentley. If the things around Bruce Bentley are going well, I'll be fine."

To that end, and continuing in the tradition of his parents, who were very involved in the community, Bentley spends a good portion of his time as part of Edmonton's thriving volunteer community serving such organizations as the River Valley Alliance, the Winspear Foundation, the Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Alberta Alumni Association. "If you're not giving back to the community I think you are missing out," he says. "You get so much more than you give—and I don't mean 'get' in a tangible sense."

Volunteering is just a tremendous experience. Whether it's doing something like Alumni Council or—coaching kid's soccer—all of these things are important. The community couldn't function without volunteers."

The Alumni Association president believes that it's important to commit to something to which you're connected. For him, volunteering with the River Valley Alliance and the University of Alberta is a no-brainer. Both are fantastic assets to the city of Edmonton and to the region. He feels that the river valley gives the city a beautiful and unique, physical focal point, and the University is a "huge factor in Edmonton's growth and success and vitality."

Life at homebase

Bentley, and his wife, Carol—also an active volunteer—hope their commitment rubs off on their two school-age sons, Jase and Cale. "I think you reap what you sow … You grow as a person." Is the way that Bentley sees it. Martin Luther King suggested much the same thing when he said that greatness is measured in service not fame, and we all have the potential for greatness. And that's a paradigm into which Bentley and his family seem to fit comfortably.

So who can fault him if every once in a while the tall, broad-shouldered Bentley will grab his golf clubs and hit the links along the river valley to unwind—even though it is painfully evident that "Tiger" is definitely not his second name. He'll take a swing here, maybe duff a couple there, miss a putt or two. And as he makes his way to the next tee, having scratched in his modest score on the card, he may take a look around at the beautiful Alberta sky, feel the sun on his face, and think to himself that, all in all, life can be pretty darn good. ■

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Thursday, October 11
- Alumni Pride Awards Ceremony & Reception

Friday, October 12
- Chancellor's Reception

Saturday, October 13
- Tuck Shop Breakfast
- Campus Tours
- Faculty Open Houses
- Alumni Classic Football Game (U of A vs U of Calgary Dinos)
- Gala Dinner & Dance

Sunday, October 14
- President's Brunch
- Memorial Service

Class Organizers

These alumni have volunteered to help get their class together at Reunion 2001. If you'd like to help organize your class reunion, please contact the Office of Alumni Affairs.

1936
Electrical Engineering / Hugh McColeman

1941
Agriculture / John Younie
Civil Engineering / Norman Lawrence
Commerce / F Richard Matthews
Engineering / Victor Henning
Law / William Haddad
Nursing (BSc) / Eva Macklam (Wheeler)
Nursing (Dip - Jan) / Ethel Phillips (Hailes)

1946
Agriculture / Joseph Fraser, J Leslie Reid
Chemical Engineering / E Jack Cuyler
Civil Engineering / Emil Sanden
Education / Mary Kyhn
Electrical Engineering / E Muriel Cheriton (Smith), Robert Proudfoot
Nursing (Dip) / Betty Runyon
Pharmacy / Erma Nash (Stauffer)

1951
Agriculture / Donald Brinton, Donald Murchie, Robert Hironaka, Paul Stelmaschuk, David Jantzie
Chemical Engineering / Art Davison
Commerce / Stu Knop, James Rose
Education / Wilfred Fitzpatrick, Mabel Geary, Audrey Lett, Glen Lett
Geology / Richard Ken McCreary
Home Economics / Elizabeth Mullen (Blackburn)
Law / Bill Mustard, Gordon Peterson
Mining Engineering / John Parker
Nursing (BSc) / Beatrice Hunter
Nursing (Dip - Jan.) / Elizabeth Olson (Goos)
Nursing (Dip - Sept.) / Stella Little
Petroleum Engineering / Gerald Maier
Pharmacy / Nancy Collinge, Myros Samycia, Bill Lesick, Olaf Sorenson

1956
Agriculture / Donald Laverty, John Calpas
Commerce / Betty Jean Buchanan
Chemical Engineering / Ronald Brown
Civil Engineering / Ralph Ulveland
Electrical Engineering / Mathew Romanow
Home Economics / Joan Markowski
Law / D Blair Mason, Erik S Lefsrud
Nursing (Dip) / Joan Townend
Petroleum Engineering / E Peter Johnson
Pharmacy / Ronal Jewett, Dora Bilko (Schnell)

1961
Agriculture / Murray Turnbull, James Hladky
Chemical Engineering / Mel Movold
Civil Engineering / Leon Root
Commerce / Joan Cowling, Vida Grace
Education / Jack Shields
Electrical Engineering / Robert McLean
Home Economics / Glenna Irvine, Martha Gue, Rosemarie Kelly
Law / Howard Starkman, Bruce Jackson, Robert Newton
Pharmacy / Donald Carley

1966
Commerce / Eric Hayne, Joseph Doherty
Dentistry / Lorne Kott
Home Economics / Elizabeth Richards
Law / Ronald Young, Hugh Robertson
M Educ / Robert Smilanich
Mechanical Engineering / Terry Hrudey
Pharmacy / Christine Dejong

1966 - 1970
F.O.S. / Glenn Sinclair / for more info check: www.ualberta.ca/alumni/reunion2001/FOS

1971
Agriculture / John Cameron
Civil Engineering / Mike Yakemchuk
Dental Hygiene / Joyce Geldreich
Dentistry / Joseph Brown
Geology / Randy Turner
Law / Gary Dickson, Simen Fialkow, David Duggan
Nursing (BSc) / Louise Miller
Zoology / Gary Ash, Garry Mann

1976
Agriculture / Bernie (Peter) Kotelko
Chemical Engineering / Wojciech (Walter) Lopata
Civil Engineering / Herb Kuehne, Gordon Babey
Commerce / Murray Lindsay
Dentistry / Rickey Leicht, David Oyen
Education / Donald Fleming
Electrical Engineering / Kenneth Klimchuk, Glenn Stowkowy, Alan Thomas
Home Economics / Sylvia Chalmers
Law / Rosemary Nation
Nursing (BSc) / Cheryl Knight
Pharmacy / Patricia Jacobsen O'Brien, Connie Gledhill
Recreation Administration / Anne Toole (Donnelly)
Speech Pathology / Kathryn Chapman

1981
Dental Hygiene / Roxanne Nunweiler
Geology / Gary Cox
Law / Larry Anderson
MBA / Norman Eady
Medicine / Dennis Fong
Mining Engineering / Allan Barlott
Nursing (BSc) / Ann Givens
Pharmacy / Mary Vetsch (Lowe), Rita Pon, Borys Sydoruk
PhD Educ / Mary-Jo Williams (Powell)
Physical Therapy / Laurie McIntosh
Speech Pathology / Jill Rogan

1986
Computer Engineering / Bert Zylstra
Mechanical Engineering / Jim Funk
PhD Educ / Eugene Ewanyshyn

1991
BComm / Darren Buma
Dentistry / Randall Crowell
MBA / Carol Ford, Stepahnie Ibach
Nursing (BSc) / Alison Nelson
Physical Therapy / Mark Laurensse

1996
Geology / Dale Mah
Law / Sue Hrychuk
Mining Engineering / Fenna Poelzer
Nursing (BSc) / Eric Stein

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